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NOTICE.—A 20-page Literary Supplement appears with this issue gratis.

We beg leave to state that we decline to return or to enter into correspondence as to rejected communications; and to this rule we can make no exception. Manuscripts not acknowledged within four weeks are rejected.

**NOTES OF THE WEEK.**

The crisis in the relations between Japan and Russia should have been past, if most of the political prophets had been justified, by the time the Japanese Diet assembled. The date was postponed from Saturday to Thursday last in order that full time might be given for Russia to make answer to the Japanese proposals. No answer has been received; and the journey to S. Petersburg which Admiral Alexeief was to make has been put off and Russian warships have appeared at Chemulpo. The acuteness of feeling in Japan expressed itself by a motion in the Lower House impeaching the Cabinet for failure to use its diplomatic opportunities and for mismanagement of the negotiations, the motion was passed unanimously. Such a reply to the speech from the throne is an extreme, almost unprecedented measure and may be interpreted as a sort of ultimatum to Russia as well as to the Japanese Cabinet. The Emperor in his address spoke of the efforts of the Cabinet "in the cause of international peace" and it is this peace policy which the Lower House has impeached. It is probable that Russia has relied on the reputation of the peace-at-any-price Cabinet, and it is this reputation that has caused the failure in negotiations. This unmistakable emergence of the warlike spirit may extract the soft answer, where excessively peaceful efforts failed.

Lord Curzon's tour in the Persian Gulf came to an end at Karachi on Monday; but he wisely used the occasion of his journey to hold a durbar on his way back for the important chieftains of Southern Baluchistan. Both for its effect on the tribes living on the Gulf and for its promise to British residents and traders that our policy in the Persian Gulf will be continuous, the visit was well devised; and it was nicely timed to meet an increased activity in the subsidised commerce of Russia. The mission had one incident. Lord Curzon noticing an omission of proper ceremonial on the part of one chieftain refused to land and the prepared functions fell to the ground. Whether the omission was intentional or not Lord Curzon, who was something of a student of Eastern etiquette before he was appointed Viceroy,

took the only action that, at least in Eastern eyes, consoled with Viceregal dignity. Nicholson's famous order to his distinguished native visitors, on the eve of the Mutiny, to approach him unshod is the locus classicus for all to observe who are disposed from Western training to despise Eastern ritual.

Colonel Mahon's capture of a "false Mahdi" in Southern Kordofan may have saved serious trouble. The Mahdi who had "acquired merit" by two journeys to Mecca and after his return set up as religious rebel against the foreigner had as good a potential nucleus of followers as the Mahdis who have given us most trouble. But Colonel Mahon, who must have been admirably served by his intelligence department, struck quickly with decision and skill. The day that the news of the Mahdi's whereabouts reached him he at once sent 200 cavalry and telegraphed for as many infantry and maxims. As soon as the cavalry had been conveyed the 200 miles up the White Nile, the whole force marched another distance of 200 miles over desert country, made difficult by rains. The surprise seems to have been complete. The small body surrounding the village which was his headquarters captured the Mahdi, so far as the later accounts make clear, at the first assault. He was conveyed to El Obeid and after a trial hanged. The capture was a personal success for Colonel Mahon; but it is also an added proof that the southern extension of Egypt now that the organisation is complete is as safe from the ravage of fanaticism as the north from drought.

It is to be hoped that General Egerton further south yet will be not less successful against the Mullah than Colonel Mahon against the Mahdi. We may expect an engagement at any moment. The seizure last month of the Galadi Wells by General Manning has been answered by the occupation of the Galkayu Wells, some distance due east of Galadi, by the Mullah's forces. We were led to expect that the Sultan of Obbia on the urgency of the Abyssinians would be there first. Nevertheless although the Mullah by this occupation of the Mudug Oasis has scored a point there are hopeful signs. Two of the Ogaden tribes, under the supervision of Captain Mann, are showing eagerness to co-operate with us, and if he has all the capacity attributed to him the capture of Abdullah Sheri, by an Italian cruiser, must have deprived the Mullah of his most successful adviser and agent for smuggled arms.

Mr. Roosevelt's Message to Congress concerns this country in its references to Alaska and Panama. The result of the Alaska award, we are told, "is satisfac-

in every way". As it was in every way unsatisfactory to British interests, the American President's description is undeniably accurate from his point of view. But we rather miss the declaration customary in American state papers that everything was done in righteousness, and there should have been a good round assertion of the absolute impartiality of the American commissioners. However the formula was not forgotten in the Panama paragraph. "The duty", not "interest" of course, "of the United States was clear" to recognise the "republic" that sprang into being exactly when the United States required its birth to carry out its Isthmian job. The best comment we have heard on the Panama business, better than the "New York Times'" solemn denunciations of the President, is that in the current "National Review" by Mr. Maurice Low, a great lover of Americans but sane. "It is not necessary to examine into that charge too narrowly." Indeed it would be very unkind to do so. We should not ourselves be extreme to mark American smartness and freedom from scruple in this matter—we belong to the historic school that recognises the frequent necessity of greater interests overriding the smaller—but we cannot stomach the Yankee snuffe that always accompanies it. When a man opens with a proclamation of the purity of his motives, look out for your purse. Colonel Hay's Panama despatch began with a declaration that all was done in righteousness.

In the same issue of the "National Review" Mr. Maurice Low, apparently in blissful unconsciousness of what he is saying, attributes to the present Civil Lord of the Admiralty an act which if done would prove Mr. Arthur H. Lee to be wholly unfit for office of any kind whatsoever. Mr. Low states that Mr. Lee, while British military attaché with General Shafter's army in Cuba, volunteered at El Caney to carry dispatches for a brigade commander in need of an aide-de-camp; and evidently carried them. Mr. Low sees in this performance nothing but an explanation of Mr. Lee's popularity with "our chaps", meaning the Americans. The story cannot be true, for it would convict Mr. Lee of a diplomatic offence absolutely unpardonable. He was there as a non-combatant, as the representative of Britain, a neutral Power diplomatically on equally friendly terms with Spain and the United States. To take active part in the campaign against either would be conduct so incorrect as to justify the strongest diplomatic protest from the Power offended. A man who could be guilty of such a breach could be fit for no public service. Mr. Lee should not lose a moment in denying Mr. Maurice Low's extraordinary story.

He must be an audacious free trader who can extract from the annual statement of the national accounts of the United States a moral of the evils of protection. Over and above the great surplus of fourteen million dollars the financial statement showed astonishing prosperity in almost every department, in spite of absurd extravagance in the multiplication of officials and signs of dishonesty in the public service. What most strikes us in the statement is the careful and patriotic regulations as to immigration. The number of men with medical authority appointed to test the physical efficiency of immigrants has been and is to be increased; and even now it is practically impossible for any outsider below a proper physical level of a citizen to carry his contagion into the United States. Here on the other hand we consider as an attribute of freedom our willingness to increase the burden of poverty and disease in London by the reception of immoral unfit and unclean citizens.

Mr. Sifton's speech on Tuesday to the Canada Club has been interpreted into terms of disloyalty. It seemed to us rather a dignified assertion of several imperial truths that need a spokesman. There was no contempt of the British navy in the denial that protection by sea was of essential use to Canada. Canada's only potential enemy is the United States, and though Mr. Sifton underestimates the damage that American ships—which President Roosevelt urges must be yearly increased—could do at Halifax, it is by land that any American attack would have to be repelled. So far as

Mr. Sifton opposed any scheme for welding the commerce of the Empire he did it on grounds, consonant with Canadian dignity, that Canada was neither in the position of a beggar asking for aid and unable to give a return nor of a naughty child which would rebel if it was not given what he wanted. There is both manliness and sense in the view and we cannot but look on it as mistaken patriotism to show touchiness at the freer criticism of men of Mr. Sifton's rather assertive candour.

Parliament is to be opened by the King in person on 2 February; and the fiscal discussion which Mr. Balfour so cleverly burked last session will be given scope at once. But one may hope that the sense of perspective, on which Lord Selborne laid stress, will be observed. There are other critical questions than fiscal. Mr. Akers Douglas, with the mysterious air of one giving away a secret, has promised that an Immigration Bill will be introduced. Surely the present system of "free trade in aliens" should be discussed, as protection should be discussed, without party bias. The Corporation of London at any rate has decided that fiscal reform is not a party question and has drawn from Mr. Chamberlain a letter in support of the view. In consequence of this corroboration the Guildhall is to be lent for two fiscal meetings, one with Mr. Chamberlain, the other with the Duke of Devonshire, who seems now to be accepted as free-trade protagonist, for chief speakers. Their two meetings should conclude the country campaign before Parliament meets.

In his Edinburgh speech on Monday Lord Selborne said at least one thing that wanted saying. The fortune of a nation is not wholly or even essentially dependent on the form of its fiscal policy. Bankruptcy may come from bad finance, but the general welfare of a country or empire is due to bigger causes; and the advice, first look after the Empire, comes properly from the First Lord of the Admiralty. It may seem that Lord Selborne showed a lack of enthusiasm for Mr. Chamberlain's scheme; but we believe Mr. Chamberlain would accept Lord Selborne's view with enthusiasm; and if those who think their first duty is to the Empire would with Mr. Chamberlain subordinate their fiscal prejudices to their patriotic beliefs, we should hear less of the absurdity that a 2s. duty on corn with Colonial preference is going to ruin the country. Because he thinks first of Empire and for no other reason Mr. Chamberlain is a protectionist or, in the phrase we prefer, a believer in imperial tariffs. Prompted by the same principles Lord Selborne concluded his speech with a warning to beware of Home Rule in the future.

We confess we are impressed with Mr. Asquith's contributions to the fiscal discussion. We cannot see the sense of saying that Mr. Asquith has but one speech; this strikes us as painfully ineffective criticism, and Tariff Reformers who can make no more intelligent comment than that would serve our cause better by saying nothing at all. The energy Mr. Asquith has thrown into the campaign is extraordinary, in fact it is comparable only to Mr. Chamberlain's own, though we should not say that Mr. Asquith's performance is by any means so remarkable a personal feat as Mr. Chamberlain's; we doubt if Mr. Asquith himself would think it was. None the less is it foolish and small to attempt to belittle Mr. Asquith's part. He does, it is true, seem to us to rely too much on round assertion, but we are not quite sure that this effect on a reader is not partly the result of abbreviated reporting. At Bradford Mr. Asquith certainly put a very different construction on the figures of the wool-trade from what their face value suggests. But whether the recent increased consumption of wool per man in this country means all that Mr. Asquith finds in it is to our mind very doubtful. Has wool clothing largely replaced other clothing? If so, the increase is not necessarily evidence of advance in the total of national trade.

Mr. Bryce, the cultured mediocrity, so rarely relaxes the firm hold he has on commonplace, when he is speaking on politics, that his neat little theatrical metaphors at the expense of the Government last week



at Aberdeen came as an agreeable surprise. Mr. Balfour's retaliation he compared with the drop scene in a theatre. It had nothing to do with the play, but it was to be kept before the eyes of the spectators while behind it the scene-shifters were busy; and when it was raised they would see a protectionist stage and protectionist actors. But this is positively frisky for Mr. Bryce: one has hopes of him. He was not so happy when he dwelt on the woeful fact that the Government had lost "four of its best members, among them one who had made an excellent administrative record". Lord Balfour was the one; the other three, we imagine, the Duke of Devonshire, Mr. Ritchie, and Lord George Hamilton. Probably Mr. Bryce did not for a moment mean to imply that these three had not good administrative records: which would be downright discourteous in an ex-Minister speaking of ex-Ministers: it was only one of those complaints that ought to have been expressed differently.

At the yearly meeting of the Associated Chambers of Agriculture Lord Onslow on Tuesday said that the farming produce returns for the year, which he has just seen, were above the average of the past ten years; unhappily the improvement is one of quantity not quality. He also made some interesting announcements in regard to the proposed recognition by the University of London of the services of the veterinary profession. As regards the fiscal question, we do not think Lord Onslow was by any means too bold in assuming that the farming and agriculturist classes will support Mr. Chamberlain's proposals. The great majority of the farmers assuredly will, because they are practically all protectionists: the imperial sentiment, too, is very real with them. The agricultural labourers are not quite so agreeable: but we doubt if they are so hostile towards protectionist proposals as they are often represented: it is the middleman, the baker, whom the agricultural labourer is always ready to suspect and condemn. At the meeting of the Chambers on Wednesday Mr. Rider Haggard carried a resolution in favour of Mr. Chamberlain's proposals, there being only six dissentients.

Mr. Brailsford's letter to the "Times" was answered with little delay; but we did not last week see Mr. Bell's figures in time to test by comparison Mr. Brailsford's conclusions. The answer is conclusive as to the prosperity of the steel trade in England last year. The sum of trade in steel is estimated at more than £150,000,000. We imported only £15,750,000, not an alarming amount; and we exported a considerable amount—estimated at £10,000,000—to the United States. But Mr. Hugh Bell's figures do not touch the dynamics of the situation. The American Steel Trust in 1902 reached a degree of prosperity undreamt of before in any industry. This year as the boom has died down it has suffered a reaction so serious that "dumping" is its only means of salvation from calamity. It is in these periods of depression that our industries, naturally depressed by circumstance, need defence from the sometimes fatal attacks of foreigners with enough capital to sell in other countries at a loss. Free trade in short is a very pleasant doctrine till competition becomes keen and the struggle for existence begins.

In Germany the Reichstag has been busy with the estimates. Herr Bebel, with the vigour but not the taste of M. Jaurès, in a prolonged speech attacked the Government in every department: its expenditure on the army and navy, its condonation of cruelty in the army, its protectionist excesses, its social deficiencies, its subservience to Russia, as shown in refusal to act in Manchuria, its servility to the United States, conspicuous in the official reception given to the young Vanderbilt. Count von Bülow took an hour to reply, but the extensive generality of Herr Bebel gave him an opportunity of slurring what he wished to slur and exercising that easy faculty of humour which Herr Bebel certainly does not share. But it was an unsatisfactory speech. The one point which he made clear was that Germany had no sort of intention of risking any embroilment in the Far East, just as in a recent speech he disclaimed any interest in

the near East. He left entirely alone the many comparisons that Herr Bebel drew between English and German finance and his explicit belief that if Mr. Chamberlain's policy is adopted, it will reduce to nothing that enormous balance which is to the credit of German industries in their dealings with England. We do not accept Herr Bebel's moral, but this fear, which is shared by most critics abroad, that Britain may adopt Protection is not the smallest of the arguments in Mr. Chamberlain's favour.

Sir Edward Grey is not often cheap; but we do not know what other description to apply to his military argument at Leeds on Wednesday last. What force is there in merely assuring the country that the Liberals would have foreseen the part the Orange Free State was to play and would have instructed the military authorities to prepare accordingly? Why should anyone accept his assurance? Why should we believe it? Every argument from experience is against him. We challenge Sir Edward Grey to find a single instance, beginning from the Crimea, of a war waged by a Liberal Government (and his choice will not be stinted), in which the beginning of the campaign found the country in a state of military preparedness. The administrative record of the last war has its blots and blanks, but it is almost a flawless page compared with the story of Gordon, of Majuba, of the earlier phases of the Crimea. Sir Edward's official career has been very brief: so perhaps he remembers none of these things; but other people do; which in itself largely accounts for Sir Edward's scanty acquaintance with office.

Nor can we get any consolation from Sir Edward's patronising, we suppose he would say "provisional", sympathy with the new military departure which is everywhere being credited to the Government. It is evident that Sir Edward Grey is inclined to look on the latest tack with a tolerant eye: only because it means a reduction in the country's military strength. We are sorry to have to say that we think this report that the Government contemplates a reduction in the regular military establishment is not without foundation. We fear the force of political exigency: of the attraction of a popular appeal to lowered estimates. It will indeed be an instance of the irony of fate if politics require a reduction of the army's strength at Mr. Arnold-Forster's hands, who has carved his way to office solely by his incessant and effective demand for the army's increase. We trust his strength will stand the strain.

Mr. Justice Grantham has again been "misunderstood". Now it is Roman Catholics, then it is the Bar, afterwards it is the publicans, and again it is the miners who pass under his flagellation, and every time one feels convinced that he has put himself in the wrong from want of restraint and moderation. He is always in extremes, and he does serious injustice to the objects of his attentions by sweeping statements made without qualification. The point before him always looms so large that he leaves everything else out of consideration; and whether it be publicans or miners or any other objects of his censure they feel themselves unfairly treated. Neither publicans nor miners are quite the innocents they made themselves out in their correspondence with the Judge over his remarks on both at the Durham Assizes; but anyone who knows Mr. Justice Grantham's looseness of statement will be inclined to sympathise with them. Why a Judge in speaking of intemperance should use the exaggerations of the platform teetotal orator is inexplicable.

The very objectionable practice of commenting strongly to the prejudice of prisoners when they have not gone into the witness-box seems to be growing amongst the Judges. Mr. Justice Channell did this recently at Nottingham Assizes in a case of murder (*R. v. Williamson*) where the evidence was totally circumstantial and exactly such as might on its own strength have proved insufficient. The Act was not intended to drive prisoners into the box, but to take away the pretence that prisoners were at a dis-

advantage by not having the privilege. A Judge ought rather where the prisoner does not give evidence to warn the jury not to allow themselves to be influenced by that fact. The prosecution should prove its case according to rule and not eke it out by commenting on the prisoner's not helping them.

A writing person said in his paper a while ago, so we were told, that he "thought he could promise his readers a boom in Chaucer". And there followed a certain amount of talk about "Dan Chaucer"—among people who love to describe FitzGerald as "Old Fitz"—and the quotations about the lady who spoke French after the school of Stratford attye Bowe and wells of English undefiled. But happily the boom did not come off to any extent. Last week the Lord Mayor unveiled the City of London memorial to Chaucer, and made a sensible little speech as did Dr. Furnivall. It is fitting indeed that London should thus honour one of the greatest citizens on its splendid roll. It honours in him the most delightful materialist of English letters; genius, complete man of the world. Wordsworth yearned for Milton at a particular time: but we always have need of men of the type of Chaucer.

There is now at Sotheby's a document of extreme interest to all English-speaking peoples; we might say without any inflation, to the whole civilised world. The MS. from which the printer worked of the first book of "Paradise Lost" will, in the ordinary course, come on for sale by auction next March. It is in a good state of preservation, and the handwriting is very clear. Obviously its value for textual criticism cannot be overrated, apart from its irresistible claims on national and literary sentiment. It is an interesting story how the isolated MS. of this one book came into the library of Bayfordbury House in Hertfordshire. None could say that it lacked sympathetic surroundings. That delightful country house contains also Sir Godfrey Kneller's famous Kitcat portraits and much other artistic and literary treasure. We spoke of this MS.'s sentimental claims on the country as "irresistible". We trust we may prove to be right. It will be an indelible stain on the whole British people, a great national scandal, if it goes abroad. But the recent flow of British treasure in books and art kills the confidence we ought to have; for rare books and works of art, that can never be replaced and hardly regained, are the one form of British exports which is ever bounding up. If Mr. Balfour would apply his savings from the army to purchase this MS. for the Museum, it would be the best defence of his parsimony.

Years ago in Paris Renan discussing the mortality of his own works said, in conversation with a young friend, that he thought none of the written books of the nineteenth century would survive. Does Renan's dictum affect the work of Mr. Herbert Spencer? One heard of his death with the sensation of loss which the disappearance of any big man leaves and should leave; but one heard of it without commiseration. He deliberately set himself to a great work which he saw finished some years ago and he received the general congratulation of the representatives of intellect the world over. He certainly saw life steadily and attempted, in his Synthetic Philosophy, to describe it whole. Of course he failed; but he did the thing he meant which is not a common accomplishment even with great men; and the tumult of the nineteenth century which Renan said prevented lasting work touched him, at least in the stability of his purpose, as little as the tumult of sieges his predecessors Archimedes and Hegel.

The philosopher had an infirmity common to great minds and little. He was selfish in regard to conversation which bored him: and he carried this selfishness to such a pitch that he bought a pair of ear-stoppers and applied them regularly. When conversation in which he had taken a part went on too long for his patience, or when some unmerciful talker held forth, he would take out of his pocket his ear-stoppers and hastily put them in place; not removing them till he believed all danger to be past.

## IRELAND AND THE FISCAL QUESTION.

MISSIONARIES are sometimes accused by the cynical of a tendency to seek comfortable fields for labour, neglecting the inhospitable regions where preaching is likely to be difficult. The charge is quite untrue as regards ministers of religion, but we are reminded of it by the conduct of the statesman who has described himself as a missionary of Empire, and of his followers in the fiscal campaign. The "Irish Times" is quite justified in complaining of the tacit boycott of Ireland by our leading politicians on both sides. Of course there is nothing new in this: our statesmen have always found it less troublesome to legislate for an unvisited island than to make themselves acquainted with the practical conditions of Irish life. Mr. Gladstone, we believe, never thought of addressing the electors of the country which claimed so great a share of his attention. During the height of the Home Rule controversy some speeches were delivered in Ulster by leading Conservatives, but it seems not to have occurred to most of our politicians that Ireland is interested in the questions which vitally concern the whole Empire. The Nationalist party has, since Parnell's influence dominated it, deliberately elected to concern itself exclusively with parochial matters, and the Irish policy of "independent opposition", worked with great tactical skill, has gradually led members of Parliament to believe that Irishmen have no concern in an Empire to which they contribute at least their fair share of soldiers and administrators. The fiscal question is, apparently, to be fought out on English and Scotch platforms alone, and when the opposing forces are marshalled Mr. Redmond (if his condottieri have not mutinied before then) will offer his sword to the highest bidder. Most of the present Irish members are not interested in economics, and they have succeeded in veiling the problem of tariff reform from the eyes of a very keen-witted section of the electors of the United Kingdom. The Tariff Reformers have from sheer want of enterprise played into their hands, and the burning question which rules Great Britain to-day is regarded with general apathy in Nationalist Ireland.

This fact is as remarkable as it is discreditable to the managers of the Unionist party. Unionists are fond of speaking of the equality of conditions between the two countries, and they have carried their creed so far as to extend to Ireland political institutions which are supposed to have worked well in Great Britain on the ground that separate treatment is indefensible. They have shown their sense of past injustice by conferring on Irish tenants advantages greater than those enjoyed by farmers on this side of S. George's Channel. But they have not thought of asking the opinion of Irishmen on one of the few questions which affect Ireland as much as the rest of the Empire. It is obvious that this neglect of Ireland is to be attributed to the fact that Unionists have not mastered the elements of the Treaty of Union, have not learned to regard Ireland as part of the governing body of the British Empire, but have come dimly to accept the Nationalist protestation that Ireland is a subject country.

It is true that one ex-Minister—a free trader—has turned his attention to the part which Ireland played in the repeal of the Corn Laws. "Ireland in her agony", said Lord George Hamilton "burst the bonds of protection", and the saying has reminded a forgetful generation that the Irish famine of 1846 afforded a strong argument to the free traders. Thousands of Irishmen were starving and it was necessary to import cheap food into the country. Irish opinion at the time called for the opening of the ports. The ports were opened, but the measure did not put bread within the reach of the hungry peasant. Lord John Russell succeeded Peel at a critical moment: he could have passed creditably an examination in Political Economy, but any junior Indian civilian would have been worth fifty Russells in a time of famine and pestilence. The measure which seemed obvious as a temporary alleviation has, as a permanent system, ruined Irish agriculture. To cure a chilblain we cut off the patient's right hand. "Free trade", wrote Mr. Lecky "meant the abolition of a crowd of English



taxes from which Ireland had been exempt, and thus altered seriously the balance of taxation, and it at the same time deprived Ireland of her great agricultural monopolies and preferences in the English market". The Young Irishmen judged the question shrewdly; free trade, said John Mitchel, was "to cheapen those products which England bought and which Ireland had to sell". To-day one may play golf—of a sort—on land which bore wheat seventy years ago. Ireland, of course, cannot again become a great producer of wheat, but she would gain in more than one way if the steady replacement of tillage by pasture-land could be stayed. Between 1855 and 1901 the acreage under cereals has decreased 53 per cent., that under root crops 25 per cent. The country is being drained by emigration. The process cannot be arrested by the United Irish League's programme of making life unpleasant for graziers: the grazier is justified by present economic conditions. Ireland has great natural advantages as a pastoral country, and cattle and dairy farming must predominate. But the present decay of cultivation is unnatural, just as the over-development of crops at the beginning of last century was artificial. The cattle and dairy industries stand to gain by a check on foreign competition, while much of the not very suitable land at present under pasture could with slight protection produce crops and give employment to the men who are going every week to the United States.

The Irish farmer knows this perfectly well, but he has been trained to look for gain at the direct expense of the landlord rather than from measures which will benefit the country as a whole. Just at present he is a little disturbed at the prospect of an enhancement in the selling value of land. But as more farmers become owners they will learn to look at the wider aspects. Already several prominent Irish business men have taken up the case for reform. Are they to receive no reinforcement from Englishmen? Mr. Chamberlain is not a persona grata to the populace south of the Boyne, but when he was at Glasgow and Greenock he might very well have included Belfast in his tour. And there are other fiscal reformers who would be cordially received and listened to with interest in Dublin and Cork. The successful exhibition in Cork has quickened the interest taken by Irishmen in industrial questions. Sir Horace Plunkett's work has brought together men of very different party views, while the Land Purchase Act (the first notable instance in which a measure initiated by a concordat in Ireland received the ready sanction of the Imperial Parliament) has tended to allay the suspicion with which Irishmen look on English politicians. Of course it will not suit the present official programme of the Nationalist party to have the fiscal issue discussed on its merits by their constituents, and they can make it very hard for Irish Unionists (who outside Ulster are almost all fiscal reformers) to get a hearing. But they could not, and we believe many of them would not wish to, prevent Ministers from addressing Irish audiences. It is often undesirable for a Chief Secretary to make party speeches in Ireland, but Mr. Wyndham might very well break through the custom of his predecessors. He is not the representative of the Crown, bound to neutrality, but member of a Cabinet responsible to Irish electors. Irishmen believe in his goodwill as sincerely as they recognise his ability. He has a great opportunity: if he and his colleagues neglect it, they will lose the most hopeful occasion ever offered of lifting Irish public opinion from the consideration of internecine disputes to the study of wider issues.

#### THE EDUCATION CRISIS.

THE action of the Merionethshire County Council in refusing to levy the education rate for the maintenance of non-provided schools is by far the most serious attempt that has been made to reduce the Education Act to nullity. What has hitherto been tried is a method which could not be attended by very serious permanent consequences. Passive resisters could only succeed in making themselves and so-called passive

resistance equally futile and absurd. In the course of time the first enthusiasm was bound to be worked off; and it could never have taken root in the minds of the more serious opponents of the Education Act as a practical method of securing its repeal. If they have had this reliance on it at all events the result proved their miscalculation: and there is no encouragement in public opinion for the continuance of this particular form of agitation. But the case would be entirely different if county councils were to any considerable extent to follow the example set them by Merionethshire. Even supposing many other county councils in districts less under the influence of religious fanaticism, and with clearer ideas of what citizens owe to the observance of law, did not take the cue, yet even a few instances of such corporate action would disarrange the educational administration to an extent that could not be tolerated. It is not religious teaching that suffers as considered from the point of view of a Churchman: that could still go on, and very much to the advantage of religion, too, since under the half-hearted compromises of the Act the boards of management are controlled to so large an extent by the education authority. The Act was intended to improve the secular education given in those schools; but the possibility of that depends on the levying of a rate to meet the expenses which the denominational schools are unable to disburse on their own unaided account.

So far as the managing bodies of these schools were to accept this position, to that extent secular education would suffer: for the policy of the Act that attendance at a denominational school shall not involve the receipt of an inferior education is set at naught. Even if the movement should not extend widely the consequences would be extremely serious: so serious that the Government cannot allow the educational administration to be set at naught. They ought and will have to use the powers of compulsion which the law gives them over public officials who, by virtue of their offices, are bound to administer all the provisions of the statutes under which they are empowered to act. The Government cannot lie by and say that, since the Education Act when it was a Bill was due to a party movement, it would be carrying out party action to insist on their measure being treated with proper respect when it had become the law of the land. There are very many statutes of which the same could be said: most of the great Acts which changed the franchise or the forms of local government and so on are; but they are not allowed so to be administered or not to be administered that their policy is defeated. If from any cause there is a difficulty in inducing the local management of the non-provided schools to assert their rights in order to compel the levying of the rate, the Board of Education itself should lose no time in taking action. That is a duty they owe to themselves and to the educational system under their charge. The law gives the remedy of mandamus against public officers who do not discharge their public duties; and we hope there will be no hesitation in applying that remedy to the case of the recalcitrant Merionethshire County Councillors.

We are not so much in love with the Education Act as to think legitimate forms of opposition may not be employed against it. If we condemn the lawless methods of the Merionethshire County Council, we are only too well aware that, as we have said from the beginning, the Act was not a reasonable termination of the controversy, and that it has left all the religious and other difficulties as unsettled as they were before. But it would be past tolerating that because the Government see now how their measure has settled nothing, and because their cowardice and vacillation have had their natural consequences, secular education should suffer in the meantime until a way out has been found by statesmen of courage and sufficient strength of conviction to devise a settlement not doomed to sterility ab initio. The remedy of mandamus should be invoked against this County Council or any other council that adopts its methods. We suppose imprisonment for refusing to obey the mandamus commanding Councillors to levy the rate

is a species of easy martyrdom they would court. They would go to prison as first-class misdemeanants to the accompaniment of brass bands and banners, and the speeches of eulogistic orators such as Dr. Clifford and Mr. Lloyd George, who would present them with the cheap laurels of nonconformist glory. At any rate they would issue therefrom under these auspices, and return to their homes more vulgarly self-satisfied with themselves than they are at present; if that is a possible conception. What we hope would happen would be that the Courts would use their power of inflicting a fine of a very considerable sum on all Councillors who did not vote the rate. A fine of say a hundred pounds apiece would be a much more suitable punishment than a nominal imprisonment, and would be a deterrent more valuable in other cases where a bad example might prove contagious. The pseudo-martyr of the nonconformist cause to-day is not the sort of person who would endure real imprisonment. He will go as first-class misdemeanant for a few days and then "purge his contempt" and issue forth as we have described to agree to the rate after he has thrown everything into confusion. He would repeat his exploits on some other occasion and the same farce would be played again. He would be best checkmated by a good smart fine to begin with; for there is no sanctity the political nonconformist respects so much as the sanctity of his pocket.

While the Education Act, however, ought to be administered as long as it remains on the statute book, it must be confessed that there is not much in it for which Churchmen as such still care. Their schools have ceased to be Church schools for they have no longer control over them; though it is precisely the contention of the opposite side that neither are they controlled by the public authorities. Thus neither party is satisfied; the Churchman less than the nonconformist: for the latter in what were Board Schools does get a dilution of religion which he does not reject. We cannot go on for ever with either of the two great parties to the controversy permanently dissatisfied; and there is constant danger that at some time or other the matter will be settled over their heads by the complete secularisation of all public education. A concordat between the two is what is wanted. It is our own opinion, as well as of many Churchmen, that the only satisfactory way out of the impasse for Churchmen, since they have lost their vital interest in what were their own schools, is the giving of religious instruction in provided schools by the authorised teachers of all the denominations: whereupon they could all be under the same control as completely national schools. The obstacle to this is the feeling which prompted the Cowper-Temple section; but that was intended to protect the Board Schools from the feared ascendancy of the clergy. This danger would disappear under a system where all the creeds would be on the same footing, and there could be no predominance. That the subject is receiving consideration from nonconformists appears from the articles that have been published in the "Daily Chronicle" with a letter from Mr. Clouesley Brereton in the same journal. It has been proposed there that the State should appoint State-paid chaplains for each denomination. We agree, though it may be repugnant to the pure and undefiled spirit of voluntarism which rejects all State payment for religious services. There is no such objection to religious teaching in the schools by each denomination's own provided teachers; and it may be hoped that there may be an approach of the two parties to each other to settle the matter on these lines. It may be the only alternative to complete secularisation of teaching and its divorce from religious influences.

#### HERBERT SPENCER.

WHEN an Englishman so eminent as Mr. Spencer dies, it is a part of good patriotism to emphasise his reputation for the sake of the lustre it casts upon his fellow-countrymen. Comparatively few men of any country win an indisputably great position beyond the limits of their own nation; and to have done so furnishes the readiest test for appreciation of their

merits with many who are not qualified to pass critical opinions upon the intrinsic value of their work. Mr. Spencer's reputation responds readily to this test, and in all European countries when his death was known there was as unanimous an expression of opinion that one of the Colossi of intellect had passed away as there was only the other day when in Mommsen there died more than his equal in learning and in present active influence. We are entitled to make the most of our production of an intellect of this class. A rare and original personality is amongst the greatest of national treasures; and in these days when the contemplative life is hardly the popular ideal but something quite the reverse, there is considerable satisfaction in the thought that Mr. Spencer's life in this respect has been duly extolled by the writers of the copious biographical notices. But nothing is more striking in the history of many remarkable men than the temporary nature of their influence, and the rapid manner in which they pass from being living forces during some period of their life into extinct volcanoes. This kind of evolution and dissolution philosophers seem natively subject to. The value of their thinking in current life becomes imperceptible; and they cease quickly to indicate anything but abandoned roads of thought that have become obsolete. It is remarkable however that there should be so general a consciousness in the writers of the biographical notices that this point is being rapidly approached in the case of the Synthetic Philosophy. This appears obviously in the apologetic references to it and the doubtful expressions as to its permanence and lasting value.

The pathos of this is poignant, and not the less so that Spencer himself perceived the truth when he remarked "Evolution has not done for us all that we expected it to do". His positive philosophy of the sciences had failed to push back the boundaries of the unknowable; and he left the mysteries of the phenomena of mind and matter as unsolved as they had remained in the metaphysical philosophies despised by the men of science. Had Spencer, died not so many years ago, we should not have perceived this as clearly as we do now. Science itself has largely passed out of the materialistic atmosphere which pervades Spencer's writings, and men of science are not so disposed as they were when Spencer was working laboriously to believe that the whole of life can be taken in tutelage by an empirical philosophy of positive science. He thought more could be made of it than was possible; and the influence he had on revolutionary ideas, especially in the development of anarchy, arose from the belief that his materialism undermined all authority that was founded on traditional views of religion and morality. By the aid of scientific conceptions and materials he produced in fact very much the disturbing effect produced by Kant by his analysis of the powers of the mind: their conclusion being very much the same, that outside phenomena nothing is knowable. Each tended to scepticism; for their recognition of an Unknowable or an unapproachable Absolute at the back of all things was as vague and as sterile as Carlyle's invocations of the Silences and Eternities. The natural tendency of Darwinism, at first, was towards scepticism by superseding earlier views as to the creation of organised beings. That alone, without Spencer's wider generalisations and his application of the evolution doctrine to every phase of activity of the universe, would have given a new direction to thought. When it was accepted it would influence every department of knowledge; and all the sciences would fall into place under the dominance of the theory. This was bound to happen early or late; but Spencer's originality consisted in being the first to see that if evolution was the great law for organisms as Lamarck's doctrines had taught, and for the stellar universe as Laplace had taught, then there was an organon of evolution which could be applied to the history of all other things; man's societies, morals, customs, institutions, religions amongst them. It was a great idea; and it must be remembered that he did not wait for Darwinism proper, that is the natural selection hypothesis, to be announced. In 1852 Spencer was an evolutionist; and the "Origin of



Species" was not published till 1859. He was prepared before that event to apply the evolution theory as a generalisation of all knowledge: and Darwin's specific proof of it by announcing natural selection did not convert him definitely to the doctrine of evolution as it did Huxley and others, but only confirmed him and made his method more positive and exact, and less vague. Plainly he expected too much of the whole evolutionary doctrine when strengthened by the new discovery; and he was led in enthusiasm to undertake vast labours which were to a great extent unnecessary.

The work of applying the new conception to all departments of life needed to be done. It wanted starting: but it was the work of one man to start, and not to try to exhaust it. Spencer's enthusiasm was so misdirected that he set himself to a task which was too much for one man. It was encyclopædic work; and encyclopædic work represents the state of knowledge at a particular time only and has to be superseded sooner or later by a new edition. It happened that by the time Spencer had completed his great task science had entered on new conceptions whose ultimate effects we do not yet see; but they appear destined to affect our ways of regarding the universe of matter and motion from as novel a standpoint as that offered previously in Darwinism. If Spencer had been more of a philosopher and less of a generaliser and compendiarist, he would not have attempted work better left for other men to do, but would have given them the impetus and the direction. He was certainly the master of his many successors who have applied the method every where, but he ought not to have attempted the task both of the master and the disciples. He might have saved himself and his readers much labour by this economy. Moreover, if he had not dissipated energy so largely in acquiring so much knowledge for the purpose of his system, it may be that he would have become, what he never was, an original man of science and a discoverer. Or, less probably, he might have been a great original philosophic thinker. That too he was not, so much as he was an interpreter to the theologian, the metaphysician, the psychologist, the historian, and to all who might need such interpretation, of the new conceptions and materials introduced into their respective departments by the physical and biological sciences. These new conceptions and materials were rejuvenating and refreshing, and renovated all departments of thought; and Spencer greatly aided the movement by which they were brought to exercise their beneficent influence. It was necessary to teach the need for the application of the results of science to life; and Spencer devoted himself to this with the self-devotion of a martyr—which as we have said he turned out to be to a very considerable extent. Long before as a people we awoke to the appreciation of the value of science in maintaining our industrial position amongst the nations, Spencer had shown how our education was deficient in this respect. If he was not exactly a populariser of science as Huxley, Tyndall, Kingsley were, or as Haeckel is, there was at least a certain popular influence exerted by his writings which did much to strengthen the combined movement for sounder physical and mental training, and healthier conditions of living in the matter of food and environment. However much or little of a philosopher he may have been from the expert's point of view, he was at least a close student of life, of man, of nature, and of society; and on all these matters a vast amount of material and abundance of wise, shrewd observation and comment are to be found in his books. A reader, for example, who is interested in physical science or biology, or in the curious customs revealed by anthropology, will find a storehouse crammed with these matters, and not to be equalled in any other single writer. Quite irrespective of such thin theories as that our notion of immortality and the survival of the soul have arisen from dreams, there is much more possible to be learned of the essential facts of man's history and the growth of ideas than was possible before Spencer had fathered the method. We owe to him the conception of the science of sociology as well as the name, as we owe other useful words and phrases to

him, and perhaps his work in sociology is the most fruitful he did. But it remains a constant puzzle why Spencer, whose ideas logically tend to socialism, should have been so extreme an individualist. There is no explanation except the fact that he began life as a philosophic Radical, and the personal bias of early years towards individualism was always too strong for him. His forecast of the future course of society seems by no means to agree with what appears to be suggested by present tendencies.

## A JUDICIAL SELECTION.

CHANCELLOR TRISTRAM K.C.

DR. TRISTRAM is in a very literal sense the last of the civilians, for he was the last advocate admitted at Doctors' Commons. Doctors' Commons men claimed the ecclesiastical practice and enjoyed a practical monopoly of episcopal chancellorships. While this old race of Advocates lasted, they continued to draw to themselves much of the practice in the Probate, Divorce and Admiralty Courts, and here our Doctor made a great reputation, figuring in several important cases and giving to the profession some excellent reports and a valuable book on probate practice. In the crop of ecclesiastical litigation which followed the Oxford Movement he also played a considerable part, generally on the side of the Church Association, as junior counsel to that truly great ecclesiastical lawyer, A. J. Stephen. We should be inclined to think that Stephens' junior shared in none of the disgust which his leader is said to have felt for some of his own triumphs. Dr. Tristram's family connexions are Evangelical—his brother is a well-known Evangelical cathedral dignitary—his friends say of the Doctor, that he finds a difficulty in understanding the High Church position, and his Ritual judgments suggest that while subjectively straight he believes in the infallibility of the Church Association Van man. Besides the *ius civile* has a tendency to create of its devotees Erastian bigots. He took silk in 1881 and subsequently argued unsuccessfully in the Bishop of Lincoln's case. It is only in the last few years that he has retired from practice and devoted himself exclusively to his duties as episcopal chancellor or commissary in the dioceses of Canterbury, London, Chichester, Ripon, Wakefield and Hereford. He is best known to-day as the Chancellor of the Diocese of London; and he is proud to recall the fact that he sits in the seat of Lord Stowell. In the seventies he no doubt enjoyed considerable influence with the Bishop of the period, and it would be an interesting speculation, did space permit, to muse on the causes that gave our Doctor (who can never be said to show himself really a first-rate Church lawyer) his influence with men so greatly his intellectual superiors as Tait and Temple. One cause only can we here suggest. Unlike the Roman Catholic prelate, the Anglican Bishop is almost childishly ignorant of Church law. The Doctor with full bottom wig and scarlet gown, his law reporter's knowledge of cases, and his cool proposals to test matters against his superiors by Writs of Mandamus in the Queen's Bench, would seem to have convinced the Bishops that in matters concerning licences and fees he is infallible. Otherwise it is hard to see how he could have so long succeeded in inducing Bishops, who detested the practice, to allow him to issue in their names licences for the remarriage of guilty parties in divorce suits. For although there is no legal decision on the point Lord Camden advised as far back as 1760 that these licences are "not a matter of right, but of favour only, and may be refused by the ecclesiastical judge", and this opinion is kept in the Faculty Office for the guidance of officials. That the Doctor's opinion in a case where his own interest was concerned was allowed for many years to over-ride that of Lord Camden shows at once the weakness and ignorance of a great part of our Prelacy. But even when the Court of Appeal prohibited his illegal insolence *re My Lord of Chichester*, My Lord bade his "dear Chancellor" sit in the seat that he had usurped.

It is not only as a vendor in the divorce marriage indulgence traffic that the essential worldliness of our

Court Christian official has manifested itself. The faculties that he granted in connexion with the Coronation merchandise in church seats made him responsible for one of the most unpleasant ecclesiastical scandals of modern times. We might here add a word on the conversion of graveyards into promenades and some other matters; but we refrain, as we wish to use our space to show the law which his Court at S. Paul's has meted out to High Church congregations. The popular belief is that he rigidly adheres to the exploded decisions of the Court of Arches and the Judicial Committee. An honest study of his judgments so unfortunately immortalised in the Law Reports should reveal even to the Erastian lawyer that he will evade the decisions of these august tribunals with the dexterity of a ritualistic curate, when they happen to conflict with the temporary necessities of Protestant bigotry. We will here consider two instances. The first we take from that famous baldachino judgment, on which he is understood especially to plume himself, and of which he has in his later decisions talked ad nauseam. His object there was to show that a baldachino was an illegal Church ornament. To prove this he laid down (and the statement is the root of his judgment) that a stone altar was an ornament. Now the whole basis of the decision of the Court of Arches in the old case of *Faulkner v. Litchfield*, that declared stone altars illegal was that a stone altar is not an ornament. However the Doctor's desire was to brand the baldachino an illegal ornament and not to judge it as what it is, an architectural decoration, which an ecclesiastical Court may or may not sanction in its discretion. So, perhaps unconsciously, he reversed the Arches' judgment.

Nor fared the Lords of the Council better at his hands what time John Kensit and his merry men came down to his Court to disturb the crucifixes of S. Ethelburga's Church. The Privy Council had said plainly of a certain iconoclastic Act of Edward VI. that it neither made nor was intended to make provision in respect of any other images than those of which it had authorised the removal. Our Doctor however heroically applied the spent Act to please "honest John" in the matter of a nineteenth-century image and annoy a unanimous vestry that had protested against the removal.

If his appellate Courts fare so ill, it is no small marvel that he makes a romance of history. For proof contrast his view as to what Queen Elizabeth thought of the legality of a crucifix with the figures of S. Mary and S. John on a chancel screen with what Elizabeth's contemporaries knew to be her Grace's view on the matter. "The introduction of such an ornament"—says the Doctor "would mark the Church as a ritualistic instead of a National Church such as was contemplated by the settlement at the Reformation". Writes the Elizabethan Bishop in the year of grace 1560 "the Queen's Majesty considered it not contrary to the Word of God nay rather for the advantage of the Church that the image of Christ crucified together with Mary and John should be placed as heretofore in some conspicuous part of the church where they might be the more readily seen by the lay people".

To read these extracts is to understand why Bishop Temple himself personally authorised ecclesiastical decorations and ornaments, and saved his High Church clergy from the Consistory Court of London. The worst of it is that our Doctor's prejudices seem to increase with the years, and that he takes less pains than ever to conceal them. Witness his description of our Communion as the "Protestant Episcopal Church of England".

A word now on the other side. We should be sorry to deny to him as an ecclesiastical Judge some good points. Although suits in the London Consistory still cost far more than they need, he has unquestionably effected some useful reforms in Court procedure. He is by no means destitute of common sense, and in some things he has improved on the practice of his predecessors. Thus he has assisted the open church movement by his faculties for chancel gates. Even however when he is at his best he is far too self-conscious of his dignity, and the fuss made by him over the Mayflower Log Book business had an un-

pleasant smack of the self-advertiser. Things have not gone well with him of late. He has seen a later episcopal favourite promoted to the seat of Lord Penzance; a vacant Chancellorship to-day is certain to fall to some man by years his junior; and the Archiepiscopal Courts having ceased to do a traffic in divorce indulgences seem likely to do a better business in marriage licences than his own Consistory. Were the Church of England a mere institution for the collection of fees and the endowment of lawyers, we admit that we should feel real commiseration for the last of the Doctors' Commons men. However, unlike himself, we regard the Church as a divine institution; and consequently we feel bound to say that for the sake of ecclesiastical harmony and Church morality we should welcome the passing into retirement of the last of the civilians.

#### THE ACADEMIC TEACHING OF ART.—I.

I HAVE dealt with the Royal Academy's administration of one of its trusts. I propose now to deal with the management of its School, and incidentally with the administration of another trust under the Charity Commissioners by which the school benefits.

In the recent discussion I took occasion to point out that the English Academy is not, and never has been, in the proper sense of the word, academic. By an academy of art is properly understood an institution that teaches and illustrates a severe and learned method of drawing the human figure. I do not, for the moment, inquire how far such an ideal is perfectly attainable or such an institution desirable, but as common ground for discussion I assume that a certain discipline in art can be handed down in a school and its practice illustrated in an exhibition, and that this discipline and illustration are the proper business of an academy.

Now no one would say that the Academy exhibition illustrates anything of the kind. The best that its admirers could claim for it would be that it illustrates all sorts of drawing and painting, all fashions, down to the most deliquescent, and that its general effect is to encourage not the severer traditions, but the most popular fashion of the moment. The Academy exhibition is therefore, for good or bad, not academic.

But still less so is the Academy School. Not only has its character not been that of an academic school, in the right sense of the word, but it has not been a school at all, for it has had no teacher. This may sound startling, and I may be suspected of paradox. I will therefore not ask the reader to take my word for what is a *reductio ad absurdum* of the academic idea. I will quote from the most distinguished of the pupils and members of the Royal Academy itself. Mr. Watts, examined before the Commission on that institution, and asked whether the Academy might be "made more conducive to the interest of art than at present" replied "Certainly. In the first place I think it might be the means of instructing students, which duty it seems to me to neglect altogether. I entered when very young . . . but, finding that there was no teaching, I very soon ceased to attend". "You ceased to be a pupil on that distinct ground, that the teaching was not, as you thought, satisfactory?" "Exactly so; I thought there was no teaching whatever." "Did you try it for a long time?" "No, a very short time; but long enough to satisfy myself that I could learn quite as much without attending the Academy, and with more ease to myself." Pressed further as to defects, he reiterated "the absolute want of instruction", and explained that he was speaking of the drawing of the human figure "which is the most important of all". The same thing was repeated by all the witnesses before the Commission, such as Dyce and Armitage, who knew what a severe and continuous discipline in drawing means. The Commission reported forcibly on the necessity for changing this state of things, recommending the appointment of a first-rate teacher, with competent and well-paid instructors under him for the various departments. This recommendation the Academicians refused to adopt, but pledged themselves to a compromise, namely the appointment of teachers



in the various classes, working under a committee of direction. They actually appointed a teacher only of architectural drawing, an appointment that has proved useful, so far as it went; but in the other classes they only appointed certain minor officers they had also proposed, namely "curators", whose duty, presumably, was rather to maintain order than to teach. At present therefore, we have an ambiguous state of things. The Keeper, as of old, keeps order in the school, and gives, no doubt, occasional advice, and in the various sections the "curators" curate under the direction of successive visitors, members of the Academy. There is no teacher, such as the Commission recommended, with authority over the whole school.

The Academy School, then, paradoxical as it sounds, (we become accustomed to the paradoxical in this region) has been conducted without a teacher of drawing. Without a teacher there can be no academic discipline in drawing, and the fashion in vogue of recent years has been one of laboriously stippled drawing, initiated, it is said, by the late Mr. Brett, and contrary to the practice of all great draughtsmen and teachers. The students have stippled through the "Antique School" and then passed into the Painting, Modelling and Life classes. All that Mr. Holman Hunt, another pupil and witness, could find to say for the Painting School of his time was that pupils had the chance of seeing pictures that are brought up from Dulwich for copying, and that he had done a sketch after a copy by Geddes of Titian's "Sacred and Profane Love". In the class for painting from the life, on the other hand, there was and is system to this extent—pupils are subjected to the visits and teaching for a month at a time of such Academicians as care to undertake the office. This is to make chaos the principle of system; the succession of visitors, each with his own ideas, makes a continuous discipline impossible; and the visitor, even if qualified as a figure-draughtsman, may be an amateur so far as teaching is concerned. The result is that students go and come according as the visitor is popular, and the School may be emptied. Thus an examination of the figures of attendance in the Sculpture School for a period of nine years published in the Commissioners' Report shows that the attendance reached in one year the splendid maximum of 6, in another fell to 0. The average was 2. These are not recent figures, but I believe the same state of things is not unknown at the present time. The probability is that if it were not for the scholarships and prizes in the Schools, and the patronage of the Academy for its students in the exhibition and Chantrey Collection, the Schools would be deserted in spite of the "instruction" being gratuitous so far as the pupils are concerned. As it is, pupils usually take care to supplement their perfunctory attendance at the Academy with courses of instruction in other schools. So notorious is the greater attraction of other schools that the Prince of Wales alluded to it at the last Academy banquet.

But has it been possible anywhere to organise and maintain an academic discipline in drawing? Yes. The thing has been done in France. The *Ecole* is, like every institution, subject to superstitions and petrifications. The larger fluctuations of art have of course affected it; men of genius, whether on one side or the other in the battle, David and Ingres on one side, Delacroix on the other, have been equally impatient of its superstitions; but there it has persisted, providing a common ground of departure for genius at a high level of discipline, and handing down its lore of the impersonal side of art.

What has been the secret of the French system? It is to be found only partly in the *Ecole* itself, partly in the voluntary schools that are closely associated with it. In the *Ecole* itself the system to this extent resembles our Academy's, that there is not one authoritative teacher, but visitors. But these men are selected from the most eminent of the Academicians; they represent, taken together, a certain central conservative tradition, and their main duty is not so much instruction as the control and decision of competitions. The keystone of instruction is that the pupil puts himself in the hands of one master from beginning to end of his course, works in the atelier of that master, and is definitely his pupil. If, for example, Sir Edward

Poynter, Mr. Watts, Mr. Orchardson, Mr. Gilbert, Mr. Sargent and other of our Academicians competent to teach drawing or modelling were to open, each of them, a school outside the Academy, and prepare pupils for its competitions, we should have the beginning of a like system. As it is, they, or others, succeed one another in the same school for a month at a time, divide the responsibility, and the students are the victims of their divided counsels.

Mr. Armitage explained to the Commission the honourable and pleasant relations of mutual aid that might exist between master and pupil in France. He was not himself a great artist, nor was Paul Delaroche, his master, a really great one. But he was a good teacher, and the pupil proved that he had had an excellent schooling. The French teacher, he explained, gave his instruction for nothing, (differing in that from our Academic visitors); the pupils, on the other hand, were ready to help him in his own bigger projects. Thus Armitage had helped Delaroche with his big mural painting, the famous "Hémicycle", being paid only by practice gained in the carrying out of such large work. This system has never taken root in England, partly from the unwillingness of our painters to give the time and trouble, partly from the difficulty for men, themselves unsystematically trained, of taking systematic teaching in hand. Mr. Herkomer's enterprise at Bushey is an exception to this rule. That being so, there is all the more need, if the central school is to have any value and authority, of its control by a capable teacher.

Next week I will deal with the academic developments of teaching that have taken place outside of the Academy; and also with the point alluded to at the outset of this article.\*

D. S. MACCOLL.

#### AFTER BERLIOZ.

AFTER Berlioz, the deluge of symphonic poems, but long after. It is my lot at present to hear a good deal of music in Paris; and everywhere I find the trail of the Berlioz serpent. Recently I said that Berlioz had no effect whatever upon the music of his time; but the more I hear of French music the more convinced I am that he has exerted a disastrous influence on all modern French composers, that he is responsible for an enormous quantity of bad music which he never heard. He did not precisely prepare the way, but at any rate he showed the road, to a thousand minor French composers; and he gave the Strausses, Mahlers and other Germans a hint which they have found useful.

For a week or two it is to recent French productions I propose to pay most attention; and I wish to make it clear at the outset that I by no means delude myself to the extent of thinking that because Berlioz pursued certain bad or ridiculous ideals all his successors have done or are doing the same. You may find the serpent's trail on a plant, and declare that you have seen it, without being necessarily forced to be so ultra-logical as to admit that the plant itself is a serpent. In a tiny French village where I stayed the other day the mayor's dog entered my room with an important air, sat down on the hearth, and looked at me condescendingly without observing that he had carefully laid his huge tail across the wood fire. Probably, like the fox in the fable, he is now running about trying to persuade all the other dogs that a singed tail is better than a tail unsinged; but I do not commit myself to the statement that they are of his opinion. Figuratively speaking, Berlioz certainly put his tail in the fire, and as certainly in his writings he tried to persuade other composers to follow his example. At the time they declined to do so; and I don't say they do it now. To return to my first figure, I find the trail of the serpent; but the serpent who has passed is surely Berlioz; modern French composers are far from being serpents. Or if they are, they are of a drawing-room harmless variety: they have no sting and assuredly have no distinctive trail.

\* At the prize-giving on Thursday evening Sir Edward Poynter laid stress on recent modifications in the system of the schools. The modifications in question, which do not affect the general system, will be referred to next week.

Neither do I wish to father every weak work I have heard upon Berlioz. But let us consider a few facts. During the last thirty years European music has been chiefly a continuation of the work of three men, Wagner, Berlioz and Schumann. In Germany Wagner lords it, as one who has conquered the world. But, as I have said, Berlioz has made his influence felt. Strauss, turning his back on Wagner, is continuing the work of Berlioz. To use the common phrase, apt enough in a musical article, he has never faced the music. When he is not pouring forth song which, though well enough for the market, cannot be seriously considered as works of art, he writes symphonic poems where a significant thing may be observed. The story, the "poem", is not good; the music is not good. He does not, as Wagner did, make his music subservient to the drama; he cannot let the story go hang, as Beethoven must have done (although, as Beethoven himself said, he wrote always "to a story") and write music which is magnificent and itself a sufficient *raison d'être*. The poor story is the excuse for uninteresting music, and the poor music is excused by the necessity of telling an uninteresting story. Mahler, he also a great Wagner conductor, has turned his back on Wagner, and writes choral symphonies in which poverty-stricken themes are covered by modern instrumental effects. But Strauss and Mahler will pass, and we shall see that Wagner was the most potent influence in the second half of the nineteenth century. Next to him stands Robert Schumann. He cannot be classed with the greatest composers; but if we remember how many imitators he has had, and how many imitators his disciple and imitator Brahms has had, we can realise in a moment to what an extent he has moulded modern German music. Wagner, with his themes of colossal build and energy, his sumptuous colour and unheard-of dramatic power, forced every one into the background; but Schumann also prepared the way for an enormous amount of good and bad music. Mendelssohn may have affected the drawing-room and the church; but he has left untouched the concert-hall and the opera. There was a Liszt epidemic in Germany a few years ago, but that seems to have disappeared, leaving no particularly distressing results. All that was best in his music was gently annexed by his son-in-law, Richard, and it does not amount to a very great deal. The power of arranging wonderfully for the piano any composition, whether one's own or another's, is a very different matter from the gift of invention.

Let us turn to Italy, the land of song. Wagner, we are told, exercised a great influence there—on Verdi, of all people in the world. As I have often said my say on this subject I will not repeat it, save to remark that though I am intimately acquainted with Wagner's works and those of Verdi, I have never felt that Verdi learnt anything from Wagner. Since Verdi nothing has happened in Italy. Even in Verdi's own time nothing especially remarkable happened; for I cannot believe that a sane man would knowingly place the achievements of Mascagni, Leoncavallo, Puccini (and the rest) amongst the world's serious works of art. As for Perosi, I am told by those who ought to know that he is an enthusiast for the best music of the Romish Church; but as a composer he cannot be thought of for a moment. I have a vivid recollection of his works, as produced at a Queen's Hall Festival some years ago; I knew his music before that great event; I remember a Perosi Festival which never came off, and—well, Perosi does not count. So far as I know, the influence of Berlioz has never made itself felt in Italy. If Verdi, an Italian, with his brutal energy, lusciousness, and moments of dramatic insight, could not affect young Italy, how could a foreigner do it? Since the days of poor old fatuous Donizetti, the history of music in Italy has been the history of Verdi. As say the advertisements for some soaps, "All the rest are imitations".

Hungary I include with Germany; there is no Hungarian music. There never has been any, and I cannot believe there ever will be any. Smetana copied mainly Verdi; Dvorák is Dvorák, in music a thorough German, and very dull considered even as a German. The others I know not—which may be my loss.

Russia has been enormously affected by Wagner and Schumann, and in a slight degree by Berlioz. Russia has had two really great musicians, Borodin and Tchaikowsky. Judging from the little I have heard of the first, he was a man of stupendous strength. He gained his livelihood as an analytical chemist; yet he found time to write a work, the B minor symphony, which is worth all the effusions of the younger generation taken together. If his mode of instrumentation did not come from Berlioz, I should like to know where he learnt it. Certainly not from Liszt, and as certainly not from Wagner. He was a great original spirit, far more daring than Tchaikowsky. Tchaikowsky shows the influence of the three men I have mentioned, Wagner, Berlioz and Schumann; but he had too keen a sense of colour, too intense a love of beautiful colour, to follow Berlioz long in the search for the bizarre, the outré. It cannot be said that Berlioz has influenced English musicians. Wagner has, superficially; but English music has remained in the main true to Handel and Mendelssohn traditions. You will find nothing wild or extravagant in the out-put of Messrs. Mackenzie, Parry and Stanford, and though the docile infant who writes in the "Times" finds the work of the two latter very great work indeed, and duly says so, the fact remains, as I have often said, that there is no English music. Elgar's music is German music, and I cannot for a moment reckon "The Atonement" and other things of Mr. Coleridge Taylor as artistic work at all. It is nothing more than smart student's work. There is no trail of the Berlioz serpent over "Hiawatha", and the African local colour which is supposed to be appropriate in a treatment of a Red Indian subject is chiefly suggestive of Meyerbeer. It would seem that we are to stick everlastingly in the ancient groove, that each generation will turn out the due number of cantatas and oratorios and go to its rest content. We get little orchestral music because we have no orchestras, no operas because we have no opera. The influence of Handel, Mendelssohn, the Albert Hall and Mr. Harry Higgins may be plainly discerned in every festival cantata produced.

A survey, such as the foregoing, of the musical Europe of the last thirty years or thereabouts is bound to be hasty and perfunctory. A book of many pages would not contain all that should be said; and fifty of the same dimensions would not contain all that should never have been said, but has been said too often. All I have attempted is to arrive at some notion of the relative importance of three men and the influence they have exerted; and I wish to lead to this proposition: that where music such as that of Berlioz has been most copied and imitated, there music is worse than elsewhere. This I will work out in a later article dealing in detail with recent Paris productions. It may be said that one ought not to "place" men in this way. To which I reply, Come now, let us be reasonable! There is neither "ought" nor "ought not" in the matter. Man is born a criticising animal: he delivers himself of criticism from the day when he makes the infantile remark to his mother that his dinner is not to his taste until his last hour when he remarks that death is not to his taste. In literature we place men, and we love many we know to be of inferior quality. We do not want to be always on the mountain tops. Few of us regard Tupper as being greater than Tennyson; yet, as his sales show, there are people who like Tupper—but heaven knows why. In music, how different! We have taken, apparently at haphazard, a number of men and have dubbed them "the great musicians". In unfriendly fellowship heaped together Wagner, Hérold, Meyerbeer, Beethoven; they are all great musicians and no man may speak ill of them—i.e. try to estimate them at their true value. There is in Paris at present a drawing-room musician named Fauré. A few years ago I heard in Brussels a Mass of his which was horribly dull; but his lighter compositions are not altogether unpleasant. Concerning him a friend of mine heard one lady remark "I like the works in his third manner bound in grey". This kind of criticism is perfectly amazing; but should it happen that Fauré became popular at Queen's



Hall, and had his festival, it is precisely the stuff that would appear in the daily press and musical papers. It is not criticism at all: it implies a total lack of the brains which, if they were not granted us to use, at any rate we do use and will continue to use. A critic is like a doctor: he makes a diagnosis: he says "Sir, you have eaten unripe fruit" or "your optic nerve has failed utterly"; but it is not necessarily for him to effect the cure. I am going to make my diagnosis of French music; I shall decline to prescribe. There ought to be a French music. The students toil enthusiastically by day; their evenings they employ in discussing with fire all manner of æsthetic problems. The populace rushes with as much eagerness to hear a new opera as the British public displays when a chance arrives of speculating in a Government loan. But there is not a French music. Neither Wagner nor Schumann has touched France; there is only the Berlioz trail everywhere and, to mix the metaphor a trifle, as Heine said, a smell of sulphur.

JOHN F. RUNCIMAN.

### THE PROFESSOR'S LOVE STORY.

I WOULD advise all lovers of drama to go to the S. James' Theatre. I cannot conceive a more cheering entertainment. During the early scenes, to be sure, one gasps a little. But presently supervenes a mood of cordial satisfaction, and this mood is gradually intensified, until, at the final fall of the curtain, one steps breezily out into the night, holding one's head ever so much higher than usual.

And rightly. Of course, one must leave some margin for the delusive effect of novelty. It is no law of art that work done to-day is better than work done a decade ago. But it is a law of our nature that we are more quickly susceptible to the former kind. Fashions change, and we with them; and a modish bad thing seems to us, if we are not very careful, essentially better than a not worse thing whose mode is past. As I write this sentence, an organ in the street below is grinding out "Maimie in her Canoe", and I see my left hand artlessly beating time to the music. If the tune were "Oh Marguerite" or some other favourite of ten years since, I suppose no answering gesture would be evoked. My musical colleague would very likely say that the new tune marked no absolute advance from the old. He might even pronounce the old a masterpiece, and the new a wretched imposture. But the mere difference in date is enough for me. For me, unsophisticated, the one tune is alive, the other dead. Passing from an art of which I know nothing in particular, I predicate of the arts in general that sometimes they progress, sometimes they retrogress, sometimes (though their superficial fashions are always varying) they merely mark time. Our tendency is always to imagine them progressive. Once in three times, on an average, the tendency is right. And the cheerfulness of "The Professor's Love Story" is in itself very definite proof that we are right in thinking that the British drama is progressing, or, at least, that it has been progressing in the past decade.

I admit that the difference between this play as it is and this play as it would be if it were new work is partly due to the difference between the mature and the immature author. I sympathise with Mr. Barrie on the sudden and sorry resurrection of his old self. It must be very tragic for a man of mature genius (and Mr. Barrie is that, though his genius is on a little scale, and his maturity has, luckily for us, not put away childish things) to be brought face to face with his old self's image. He must shrink away, horrified, not less horrified than would be a beautiful girl suddenly confronted by the image of herself in extreme old age. For Mr. Barrie what Highland fastness were too remote a refuge from the study of such unripe humour and such ignorance of life as are flaunted now at the S. James'? The difference between "The Professor's Love Story" and "Little Mary" is all the more salient for that there are occasional points of likeness. Compare the two doctors in "Little Mary", those delightful figures, with the two doctors in the earlier play, laboriously and frigidly bandying the phrase "cherchez la femme". The Scotch peasants are well enough: Mr. Barrie had

studied them at first hand, and managed to express through them some of his inherent humour. But the smart people! Compare them with those who are in "Little Mary". What dull and pointless figments from novelettes! The Dowager Lady Gilding, resentfully eyeing a typist in the Professor's service, exclaims in a high voice "You may present the young person to me!" And that is a fair sample of the satire throughout the play. Yet the intention of the play was to reproduce actual life. Nowadays Mr. Barrie treats life in a frankly fantastic manner. But he sees what he twists. The reality is there, right enough, despite the mode of its presentation. *Life shown as it isn't, and yet—life is the formula for Mr. Barrie's recent work.* And here we have an exhilarating development from his early work, whose formula is *Nothing that exists, purporting to be life.*

But the special cause for gladness is not so much the advance of Mr. Barrie as the advance of drama in general. The point is not that Mr. Barrie could not now write such poor stuff as "The Professor's Love Story", but that no neophyte could do so. At least, if any neophyte did contrive to do so, he could not hope that his play would be accepted by any manager. Of the neophytes at this moment one may presume that few indeed have in them the germs of such talent as Mr. Barrie's. But no matter. They are bound to be doing, however badly, a better thing than was done by him. They are using their wits more freely than did he in observation of life. They are tackling a genuine material, where he tackled a false one. Stage-figures, stage-motives, stage-sentiments, stage-language, were what Mr. Barrie had to study and reproduce in order to write a successful comedy. The comedy written conscientiously on those lines would be slated now by even the most retrospective critics. We are not nearly so far away from false convention as (I hope) we shall be hereafter. But we are, anyhow, at a little distance from it—enough for perspective—and not stuck in the thick of it, as we were when "The Professor's Love Story" was tolerable. The soliloquies, the asides, the exposition when the curtain rises, help to make this play seem old-fashioned. But to them I make no objection. On the contrary, as I have from time to time suggested, I think it a pity that we are so intolerant of these devices—a pity that they should mar illusion. That they do now mar illusion is no sign of better taste in us. But very definitely such a sign is that we will none of the stage-savant who is so absent-minded that he does not know that he is under the spell of love's young dream; none of the stage-spinster who is very bitter against matrimony, until the finding of a long-lost letter, in which an early suitor for her hand is proved to have been faithful after all, causes her to become very genial; none of the stage-doctors and other puppets, as already described; none of the stage-offer of marriage, with its flatulent rhetoric; none of the stage-suitors' incurable impression that the lady who is accepting him is thinking of "another". All these things Time has swept gently away. They are lumber. Comedy (and "The Professor's Love Story" was, and for old sake's sake is, called a comedy) has no use at all for them. They have been made over to farce. Farce has taken them in hand, to the neglect of slammed doors and smashed cucumber frames. In the future decade, I hope, comedy will make over to farce certain other things which now seem appropriate to her. That is always the test of dramatic progress.

"The Professor's Love Story" ought now, of course, to be performed consistently as a farce. But the mimes at the S. James' have not been duly coaxed to this effect. Some of them are in the right key. Perhaps the most satisfactory performance is that of Mr. A. S. Homewood, who, as Sir George Gilding, frankly dissociates himself from every known or imagined type of humanity. He does not amuse me, but his manner harmonises exactly with the part. The spinster is played by Miss Helen Ferrers, who tries to make the character natural, but atones by her firm resolution not to make it pathetic. Mr. Willard throws himself with serious enthusiasm into the part of the Professor. But he is not really suited to it, and would not be so even if a sentimentally comedic rendering were the right one. His strong point is in forceful emotion. He is

not a comedian. As the Professor, he makes his points very cleverly, but one sees him making them, and even going to make them, every time. Lightness and elasticity are not his. And even he does not take the part so seriously as to force it within range of his real powers.

MAX BEERBOHM.

#### UNIVERSITY ROWING PROSPECTS.

AT the last Henley Regatta there was among the competitors only one eight-oared crew composed of resident undergraduates of Oxford or Cambridge. There had not been such a dearth of young rowing talent at Henley for many years, and it now appears from the form displayed by the Trial Eights of the two Universities that the dearth continues, and that the rowing on both Isis and Cam is of an indifferent quality.

At Cambridge there are in residence certainly two first-class oars, Mr. Edwards Moss and Mr. P. H. Thomas and one promising freshman from Eton Mr. Powell. At Oxford, with the exception of Mr. A. K. Graham, there is not one single man whose rowing can be described as first class or anything approaching thereto. The quality of the rowing at the Universities has always varied periodically. For some years, between 1890 and 1900, the rowing at Cambridge was decidedly bad, but it is some considerable time since there was such an absence of good material at Oxford as there is at the present moment. It used to be found that the University which secured the pick of the Eton freshmen was able to maintain a high standard of oarsmanship. To a certain extent that is the case at the present time, but the value of a member of the Eton Eight as a recruit in a College or University crew has sadly deteriorated during the last few years, and it is asserted by the best judges that the present unsatisfactory state of University rowing is distinctly traceable to the falling-off in the form displayed by the Eton boys. During the time that Dr. Warre was able to devote a large portion of his time to the coaching of the Eton crews the essentials of correct form were instilled into the minds of all his pupils; and rowing in Eton form became synonymous with rowing a correct form. It is nearly twenty years since Dr. Warre gave up coaching, but the traditions which he established remained and up to 1894 or 1895 every Eton wet-bob, even the very smallest boy, endeavoured to imitate the rowing of "The Eight" by sitting up square to his work, and by trying to cultivate form rather than by trying to work harder than he was able. During the last few years form seems to have been neglected for strength in the selection of the Eton Eight, and the boys seem to be allowed to twist themselves into any ungainly and unscientific attitude so long as they row together and try to work hard. There is no form of athletics in which imitation plays so important a part as rowing, and through neglect to cure these faults of form in the Eton Eight the rowing throughout the whole school has very rapidly deteriorated. This may seem a somewhat unwarrantable digression in an article discussing the present prospects of rowing at Oxford and Cambridge, but Eton has long been the nursery of the best oarsmanship, and if that nursery continues to supply material of an inferior quality the rowing at the Universities is certain to fall off.

In the Oxford Trial Eights there were one or two fair performers, but no exceptional merit. The race was spoiled by an error of judgment on the part of one of the coxswains who kept his crew close under the bank and out of the stream, with the result that they were out-paced from the start. In the winning crew Messrs. James, Spencer Phillips and Jelf showed most promise and in the losing boat Mr. Hales rowed in fair form and with great determination. The president will not have an easy task in selecting his crew next time, as there will be only three of last year's crew in residence.

At Cambridge the prospect of turning out a good crew next spring is more favourable. The two or three old Blues who will be available are all good men, and even if the recruits from the Trial Eights are not at present very promising they are bound to derive some

benefit from rowing for six or seven weeks in the same boat as men of the calibre of Messrs. Thomas and Edwards Moss. The Trial Eights race at Ely took place last Saturday and was a well-contested one. Messrs. Johnstone and Smith, the two strokes, occupied the same positions last year. Mr. Johnstone, as in last year's race, led from the start, but on this occasion the crews were more evenly matched and Mr. Smith who was well backed up by his crew suffered defeat by a length and a quarter; not a large margin in so long a course.

As has been said, there was no very great promise shown by any individual. The crews were a level lot and rather below the average of recent years. Of the two strokes, Mr. Smith, although he had not the life and smartness of his opponent, gave his men more length and generally speaking created the more favourable impression. The best of the heavy-weights were Messrs. Huddleston and Oddie, but neither of them appeared to have mastered the art of getting a smart hold of the beginning of the stroke. This is a fault which is generally more marked in a good crew than in a bad, and they will both have to make considerable improvement in this respect if they hope to gain places in the University boat. Of the others Messrs. Ede and Winthrop Smith (the latter an Eton freshman) showed most promise.

It will thus be seen that so far as a prophecy can be made at this early date, Cambridge seems to have a very fair chance of gaining a third successive victory next spring. On many occasions, however, forecasts made after the Trial Eights have proved incorrect. Uniformity is so much more important in rowing than individual prowess that the best material often fails to develop into the best crew; and a really uniform crew of mediocre oarsmen will always travel faster than a crew of better men who are not absolutely together, even if the latter should contain one or two really first-class men.

#### THE CITY.

THE publication of the draft of the new gold-mining law which is to be passed by the Transvaal Legislative Council does not of course affect existing mining companies. That is presumably the reason why it has not affected prices in the Kaffir market. But it does affect, and very seriously, the future flotation of mining companies, and therefore the land companies which own farms that have not yet been proclaimed as gold fields. Put shortly, the new law cuts down the rights of the owner of the farm from about 33 per cent. to about 14 per cent. of the proclaimed area. This seems a rather serious invasion of the rights of property, especially as the land was bought in the reasonable expectation that the law would not be changed. We do not know exactly how the Transvaal Legislative Council passes its laws; whether it allows parties to appear and be heard against its proposals, or whether it simply acts despotically. Certainly the owners of property in the Transvaal ought to protest against this confiscation of their rights, the more so as there is no such law in Rhodesia. Such shares as Hendersons, Oceanas, Transvaal Consolidated, and Transvaal Developments, might be depreciated by such a policy, and we are surprised that no opposition has been expressed. Talking of the Transvaal, the Johannesburg Municipal Loan of £1,500,000 bearing 4 per cent. interest has not, we hear, gone off, from an underwriter's point of view, though placed at a considerable discount. This is certainly strange, as the security is quite as good as that of a British municipality, and the interest at the price is over 4½. Perhaps the issue was badly managed, or not properly advertised. Certainly we should recommend it as a good investment, quite as good as the new Canadian Pacific debentures (4 per cent.) at 106. With the ordinary shares at 123 the debentures are obviously gilt-edged, and as the outstanding bonds, with which they rank equally, are 110, they are not dear. But the Johannesburg bonds are 12 per cent. cheaper.

Of the Stock and Share market there is little interesting to record. Argentine rails continue a buoyant market,



as we have all along predicted, Rosario deferred having reached 80, and Buenos Ayres and Pacific ordinary having touched 110. With regard to this latter stock, we see no reason why it should not rise to 130, as on the gross increase in profits, (50 per cent. of which is nett), for the last six months the 5 per cent. on the ordinary has already been earned and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. in addition. Although carrying-over facilities are not readily accorded in this market, there must be a pretty large speculative account open for the rise, and this is the only danger. American railways have risen appreciably during the account, and the old operators in this market have reappeared upon the scene. In other words, London speculators once more seem disposed to take a hand in the Wall Street gamble, though whether they are wise or not, we cannot say. The ordinary stock of great trunk lines like the Baltimore and Ohio and the Union Pacific, on which the 4 per cent. dividend seems well assured for some time to come, certainly look cheap in the neighbourhood of 80, yielding as they do nearly 5 per cent., and "Atch" at 70 cannot be called dear. There has been a considerable recovery in Steel Trust Preference, they have risen over 59 at one time, and we suppose that after "the turn of the year", that magical period, they will gradually return towards par. Home Rails have been the same tiresome, stagnant, market, poor trafficks and drooping prices. The news that the Hamburg-American Company had signed the contract to make Dover, instead of Southampton, their port of call on the way to the Mediterranean and the United States, gave a momentary fillip to the securities of the Chatham and Dover Company, but it was only momentary. West Australians hold their own, no more, and the sleeping sickness continues to hold the Jungle in its grip. The real truth of the matter is that there is no business. Prices are marked a little up one day and a little down the next, but the buying and selling orders executed would surprise the outsider by the smallness of their amount. For the last eighteen months the numbers of brokers and jobbers, who have been living on their capital, is appalling. This state of things is entirely owing to the reckless expenditure on the war, due to want of preparation, and to the equally reckless and unchecked extravagance of municipal bodies. The speculators have been ruined by the slump consequent on the shortage of labour in South Africa, and the investors have had their cash absorbed by the continuous issue of Consols and War loans. And when both speculators and investors are scooped out, it goes without saying that business in the City falls to a very low ebb. How long will it last? Some say until the spring, some until the summer, and some until the autumn of 1904. But there are those who expect a Kaffir boom, and a general revival all round, in February. If one only knew!

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### MR. [DAVIDSON'S OWN TESTAMENT IN BRIEF.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

5 December, 1903.

SIR,—Having purged myself of my *lèse-Tennyson* by the payment of a guinea, and by sitting in sackcloth and ashes in the SATURDAY REVIEW from week's end to week's end, I beg of your courtesy, that you will allow me to resume the weapons I had forfeited, and to reply to the review of my "Rosary", not only because I wish to admonish the critic, but because I have a little to say about myself which I have long wished to utter in some conspicuous place.

It was once predicted of me by a certain writer that I was doomed to be the successor of a great Titan dead, and to become the tormented Prometheus of a vengeful criticism. Another prophet, less fanciful, held that I had missed the flood, and been stranded for ever among the shallows and the flats. I can imagine a meaner fate than either of these; but both prophecies

are false. I have been waging war in Gaul, and have now reached the Rubicon: permit me to cross it in your columns. Cæsar, good-tempered and long-suffering, succeeded alone where a whole conspiracy failed, although his heedlessness was a powerful factor in the temporary success of another conspiracy, much less elaborate than Catiline's. (No; there is no unworthy suggestion in this reference.)

I am often asked what I mean by "intelligence", a frequent word in my "Rosary". By "intelligence" I mean a virgin understanding, sentient Matter, unsmirched by theology, philosophy, morality, or immorality, and self-exiled from the inheritance of imagination. Such an understanding is beginning to be: it dates I think from the "Origin of Species": my "Testaments" await its maturity. I should say here in full justice to myself—it is always easy to be just to one's self, however difficult, perhaps impossible, to be just to others: in justice to myself I should say here that I have other work to do besides my "Testaments", work in which I employ all the humanities. And this latter work I still prefer. The burden of my "Testaments" is laid on me: these when completed will be my "Statement of the world as it is".

To a man like myself who is in living earnest, and for whom every word of his pen is sacro-sanct, whether it be poetic or ironic, prophetic or humorous, who writes his own things not in the name of any party or of any creed, but in his own name only, it is unnecessarily discouraging to have his twenty-fifth publication (which "A Rosary" is) dealt with in the inferior spirit your reviewer brought to it. The following sentences illustrate what I mean by an inferior spirit:—"Mr. Davidson's only excuse is that he wrote these dialogues, paragraphs, verses, questions, ejaculations long ago in his first childhood. If the excuse is not available we can only express regret that Mr. Davidson has reached his second." Such a personal reference as that, feeble though it sounds, is gross in intention, and entirely unworthy of the name of criticism. Nor has it the merit of originality: the formula is taken from my own note on the music-hall, which is:—"That is the attraction of the music-hall: cheerful indifference to the claims of the intellect and the spirit, and a prompt, powerful and continuous appeal to the elementary and the subconscious to what is permanent from first to second childhood" ("A Rosary", p. 75).

The string of disconnected quotations which your reviewer imputes to me as my opinions is a further sample of the inferior spirit which I reprehend. My "Rosary" is a side-dish on the table I am spreading in my "Testaments": it contains a variety of ideas and opinions which it interested or entertained me to express in my own person or by means of imaginary interlocutors. To quote a selection of disconnected sayings as if they formed a body of doctrine for which I am responsible is to hoodwink the reader with a tissue of misrepresentation. This can be seen better on a larger scale. For example, it is my purpose in my "Testaments" to state Roman Catholicism and Anarchism in the persons of a Pope and of an assassin: these statements will be sincere, being my statements; but the religious and anarchic opinions and sentiments expressed will not be mine. I am afraid the dramatic spirit is still little understood.

It is, indeed, Sir, unnecessarily discouraging to a man like myself who despises no one (or how could I concern myself with an anonymous reviewer?): for whom there is no insignificance, and who identifies himself with everything (even with the anonymous reviewer: it offends me to write thus, however the perusal may affect him): I say, it is unnecessarily discouraging to such a man to find his twenty-fifth publication misunderstood in a periodical of the highest critical pretensions, and to see himself, instead of receiving the courteous consideration he deserves, misrepresented in an article which reads precisely like the anxious effort of one of those more hapless writers who abuse a public opportunity in the hope of pleasing a coterie or of avenging a private grudge. I am thus deliberately harsh, because if Apollo spares his arrows he spoils the critics.

The power of the periodical press is great. It has by right the last word always. But I believe there

would soon be an end of those evils which tend to make anonymous reviewing a by-word, if authors, vexed by insult and misrepresentation, would reprimand the evil-doers regardless of the consequences to themselves.

And now, Sir, if, of your courtesy, you have granted me space for this letter, it is the reviewer's turn. On my head be it.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN DAVIDSON.

["That curse shall be forgiveness." How can we be angry with a man who has put us in the way of winning a guinea without work? When Mr. Davidson's twenty-sixth is published, we will thresh out these matters with him with all the seriousness he could wish. We are sure he will admit the inconvenience of doing it in the correspondence columns.—ED. S.R.]

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Whitefriars House, Carmelite Street, London, E.C.

7 December, 1903.

SIR,—Is it probable that Mr. Davidson was, in writing of the "screaming wave", thinking of the "shrieking sky" spoken of in Kipling's "Flag of England"?

Faithfully yours,  
ERNEST PLAYFORD.

#### FREE IMPORTS OF ALIENS.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Immigration Reform Association,  
31 Essex Street, Strand, W.C.

SIR,—I have no personal knowledge of the mining industry and may be wrong in supposing that mining for fireclay does not involve the same dangers as mining for coal, to which my book refers in the passage criticised by Mr. Herbert Beard. I make no allusion in "The Alien Immigrant" to disease in this connexion, but I believe your reviewer is right if—as I suppose—he means that the malady known as "miners' worm" was introduced into this country by foreign pitmen.

My authority for the statement that alien miners are a source of danger to their fellow-workers is chiefly Mr. Robert Smillie, President of the Scottish Miners' Federation. He said, in the course of his evidence before the Royal Commission on Alien Immigration (Question 22,944): "It has been pointed out to the Commission that the rules of the collieries in Lanarkshire were printed by some of the employers in the Russian-Jewish language. That has been done in the case of one colliery by one owner. They have been kept in the office, and they are not posted in the mines. Miners work under 150 special rules for their safety. . . Those foreign workmen are engaged in the most dangerous part of our mines, what is known as the fiery district. They use safety lights. They may at any time meet a large body of explosive gas. Ninety per cent. of them do not understand a single word of the English language. They have never seen a mine before they came here. . . They are not in a position to take instructions from an English-speaking deputy or foreman, and they are a serious danger indeed to themselves and our own people."

Mr. Smillie further remarked (22,948), "We are extremely anxious to prevent an accident which may sweep away two or three hundred of our own people. In the mines at the present time, when a man goes down to work in the morning, he is told by the fireman who has examined the mine that morning that his place is clear or dangerous. He is told some place is boarded up, and he is not to go in there. A vast majority of the men of whom we speak now do not understand a single word that is said to them."

Surely it is not necessary to wait for a disaster before trying to deal with an obvious danger. The deliberate and organised importation of foreign labour in order to combat trades-union combinations, which according to Mr. Beard seems to have taken place in Scotland, opens a very large question. I should be interested to hear what the trades-union leaders have to say upon it.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, W. EVANS-GORDON.

#### POLITICAL PARTIES AND THE FISCAL QUESTION.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

London, 5 December, 1903.

SIR,—At a time when so many are crying peace while there is no peace, your candid admissions that the fiscal issue transcends every other issue in immediate importance, that the Unionist party has definitely split on the question, and that the policy of Mr. Balfour must end in the policy of Mr. Chamberlain, are very welcome. May I venture to suggest why the one policy must end in the other? It is not merely because Mr. Balfour's policy has, in the attempt to keep the party together, been whittled down to a declaration that if any British industry is subjected to outrageously unfair treatment, the Government should take steps to defend it—a proposition so vague that it would hardly serve for a theme for a debating society, much less for an appeal to the country. It is that a policy of Retaliation and a policy of Protection cannot possibly be reconciled. While matters are in the speech-making stage this may be concealed, but as soon as definite tariff proposals are put forward it will be evident enough. And what industry will care a straw about Retaliation if it can get Protection? By Retaliation it can only secure a chance of competing with "the foreigner" on equal terms, by Protection it hopes to secure a permanent handicap in its favour.

Your inference that the Unionist free traders must close up with the Liberals is even more welcome to those of us who have long regarded the present party divisions as entirely unreal. The true division is between those who care about social reform and those who do not, and the progress of social reform will continue to be very slow until political parties are constituted on that basis. One can hardly prophesy whether the new grouping will tend to advance this, but it will at any rate be preferable to a grouping based on the obsolete policy of "Home Rule", which compels men to act with politicians to whose opinions, on every subject of real importance to the welfare of the country, they are fundamentally opposed.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

V. HERBERT.

#### THE CURSE OF CHEAPNESS.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Bath.

SIR,—A "Warwickshire Man" missed my point which was that bread was so cheap that it is wasted in a wholesale manner on birds and pigs; and that the average working-man spends daily on drink four times what he does on bread. I do not agree with him in thinking that the labouring classes should drink less tea and more beer. However we are agreed that bread as made in the present day is not nutritious. A miller writes as follows:—"As regards the making of flour by the new process, every particle of the germ and also of the outside portion of the wheat is taken out, which by the old method of grinding with stones was impossible, although these substances are admitted to be the bone and muscle-forming particles. Everything is sacrificed to colour." We are also quite agreed in thinking that even this un nourishing bread if mixed with milk is excellent for children. Much in the same way a confirmed drunkard would think water if mixed with whisky a most excellent drink.

Your obedient servant, E. C. PETGRAVE.

#### THE BOARD SCHOOL GIRL.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

SIR,—Montaigne was of Mrs. F. A. Steel's opinion. In one of his famous essays this passage occurs.

"La plus utile et honorable science d'une femme, c'est la science du ménage." Yours faithfully,

G.



# "THE MAGAZINE OF ART" AND THE CHANTREY TRUSTEES.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

The Athenæum, Pall Mall, S.W.

SIR,—Mr. Spielmann writes that the nature of the charge (one of deliberate maladministration) renders it impossible for the Chantrey Trustees to notice it. I at first thought that there was a misprint here, and that the word "not" had somehow dropped out before "to notice". On further consideration of the literature which Mr. Spielmann has produced on this topic, I gather that the pathos of the Academicians' lot so appeals to his imagination as to affect his judgment. But he cannot expect us all to apply to their conduct a different ethical standard from that which we should use in other cases. Let us suppose for instance that the testator had left large sums of money to buy racehorses and that his Trustees had munificently expended a considerable part of it in carriage-horses for one another's use. What would be the general opinion of their conduct, and would Mr. Spielmann feel any confidence in asking for "sympathy and help, not hostility and denunciation" from the sporting fraternity? And if the press were unkind enough to reprobate their course of action, would he attribute this to the workings of a clique, and insinuate an interested motive? or would he declare that the nature of the charge made it impossible to notice it?

Mr. Spielmann has assured the SATURDAY REVIEW that he was not aware at the time the reference to the New English Art Club went to press "several weeks ago" that the opposition to the R.A. was so widely spread as he has since discovered it to be; and of course we all accept this assurance. But would it not have been as well to make himself acquainted with the nature and extent of the agitation before he penned in his haste an imputation which could not fail to be offensive to the "members and friends" of the club and to the press in general?

I know that Mr. Spielmann sometimes reads the "Westminster Gazette", for he has lately favoured it with a letter on this very subject. He must therefore have missed a paragraph which appeared in its issue as long ago as 7 July, from which I may perhaps be allowed to quote: "The question is not one of vague discontent or of the hostility of a particular clique. A very definite and specific indictment has been put forward and is supported by responsible names and by newspapers of the highest standing. The critics who have spoken differ widely enough in their views on other artistic matters. . . . When the 'Saturday Review', the 'Athenæum', the 'Speaker', the 'Academy', the 'Daily Chronicle', and the 'Westminster Gazette' are found to be in practical agreement on this subject, it is not enough to pretend that the agitation is artificial." It only remains to add that the "Morning Post", the "Contemporary Review", "Truth" and the "Times" (and possibly other papers) had all published strongly adverse criticisms on the Chantrey administration before the middle of August. The "Magazine of Art's" article did not appear till November.

Before embarking on another controversy Mr. Spielmann should really remember Mr. Rhodes' advice on a famous occasion, and look up S. Luke xiv. 31.

I am, Sir, yours obediently, BOWYER NICHOLS.

## OXFORD HOUSE AND THE CITY.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Oxford House, Bethnal Green, E.

SIR,—May I through your columns appeal to City men and others (particularly to old Oxford men) to do their best to attend a meeting for men to be held at the Salters' Hall, S. Swinburn's Lane, E.C. at 5 P.M., on Tuesday, 15 December, when—under the chairmanship of the Hon. Alban Gibbs—the Bishops of London and Peterborough will speak on the Oxford House and its needs? The meeting will not last more than an hour, and a visiting card will serve as ticket of admittance.

Yours truly, H. S. WOOLLCOMBE,  
Head of the House.

[We hope that Oxford men in the City will do their utmost to attend this meeting. We speak from long and close knowledge of Oxford House.—ED. S.R.]

## REVIEWS.

### AT LAST A POEM.

"The Death of Adam." By Laurence Binyon.  
London: Methuen. 1903. 3s. 6d. net.

HOWEVER criticism present or future may decide on its merit, Mr. Binyon's poem "The Death of Adam" should compel critical notice as no poetic work issued for many years. It has been praised for sustained elevation of thought and language, for dignity of style, and might well be praised for originality of conception. It may be a good poem for these and other reasons, but it first demands attention as an admirable if unconscious protest against a popular philosophy of poetry which has done much to prevent the production of poetical work of the first quality. We may take Mr. Binyon's cousin, Mr. Stephen Phillips, as the popular type. He writes for the most part without thesis, without body; but his acquired or inherited skill in dressing has made the framework of even the skinniest scarecrow "the glass of fashion and the mould of form". In short the modern poet takes us in; and when we have found out our mistake, even if it did not take long, we have lost something of a most precious possession, the love of poetry.

"O words, you live and therefore you can die,  
Ill yoked, imprisoned, tamed in a dull task!  
So callous tongues may use you but not I,  
Who for your grace, a wooing lover, ask.  
Dead things may kill and you being dead entomb  
The frozen thought that once you clothed in bloom."

It is a bad sign that the fame which has swamped Mr. Phillips has so far left Mr. Binyon, shall we say, high and dry. The elect of our poets have reached fame by the force of very different qualities. We may take Matthew Arnold and, perhaps, Burns as extremes. Matthew Arnold, at his worst, approaches prose: Burns at his worst mere rhyme. In one the thought precedes the word, in the other the music precedes the matter, though perhaps in the lyrics of all poets at their best the thought and word in their potential unity are born Athena-like. The poets of the first type are wont to grow in grace. Those of the second, as Mr. Quiller-Couch confessed of himself; often find themselves suddenly abandoned by the easy gift with which they began. Tennyson for a little while so lost his early power; and what a host of poets in these days have utterly fallen from the hopes that their first lyrics suggested. Mr. Phillips, for example, has done little but repeat with diminished fervour the music, some of it quite beautiful, of the "Marpessa" of his "flaming days". These poets are trebles whose voices, cracking in their early teens, are not again recovered. Mr. Binyon, at the other extreme, is of those who, we may feel confident, judging historically and from internal evidence, find in due course the true tenor. In "The Death of Adam" is, perhaps, the first clear evidence. Round Adam dying the first natural death in the world came to Eve and her sons and daughters the first sense of the *lacrimæ rerum*, "the old woe o' the world", the first dim hint how "omnia exeunt in mysterium". The theme gave scope for fine lines, dramatic incidents, ingenious inventions, even that most false and popular of feats, a climax or succession of thrills. But Mr. Binyon's sight was clearer. The "tune to whose rise and fall" his thoughts go is of a more classic virtue. The conception is not broken by phrases that would obscure its immanence. The theme and the language rise and die away with a sort of chromatic certainty in long unbroken sentences; they ebb like the sestett of a sonnet. It is perhaps a disputable point, if some of the more than Vergilian similes do not interrupt the narrative; if the search of his brothers for Cain is not too episodic, but we do not think so. On the same principle of criticism "Richard II." would be shorn of the finest of the King's speeches; and in these long similes there is a virtue, which could scarcely be reached in any other way, in giving to Adam, the heroic type of manhood and man's destiny, heroic association with the larger phenomena of nature. The value and necessity

are the same whether it is his thought or his mien that suggests the comparison.

"He sits in idle stillness, yet at times  
From the dark wells of musing some old hour  
Floats upward, as the tender lotus lifts  
Her swaying stalk up through the limpid depth  
Of pools in rivers never known to man,  
And buoyed on idle wet luxurious leaves  
Peacefully opens white bloom after bloom."

What are all the charges criticism can make against this simile? It is perhaps too conscious (in one line Mr. Binyon must have thought of "Kubla Khan") it is not wholly fetched from personal observation; but it springs from an instinctive metaphor, and as similes should be is twice-blessed. The mood is clearer for the comparison and the lotus a fairer picture for association with the mood. We have said that the poem has been praised for elevation of style and thought. But, on the principle that Edgar Allan Poe delighted to illustrate, the praise also carries an implication of blame. What matters in a poem of such a length is the unity or totality of effect. Poe held that such totality could not be ensured in a poem much over one hundred lines in length. The "Death of Adam" exceeds Poe's quaint measure by seven times, and perhaps if it had needed conscious maintenance of high level, as in an epic, we should condemn it, with Poe, as inartistically long. But it is the virtue of the poem that it leaves an unbroken sense of totality; and therefore is admirable not for the maintenance of "pitch" but for the strength of the primal conception which could make so long a poem organic. It were a logical error to attribute the effect of the whole to a conscious virtue in the parts. The cardinal merit, apart from poetic adequacy of expression and isolated beauties, is that the poem is one fine thought, exercising as such mastery over detail and preventive of unworthy response and unequal service.

It is another question, not affecting the great achievement of the longer poem, whether Mr. Binyon proves the possession, the lyric gift in high measure. The great lyric poets show us nature in its own element. Even the finest artists—and Mr. Binyon is always artist—in pulling thoughts from the depth are apt to find in their hands, in place of the broidery of swaying fern that the water lifted, a tangled and unshapely mass never again to be unravelled into the grace of the primal form. It is only the few who, as Shelley in the "West Wind", can "keep the pattern". Matthew Arnold is said to have been without the gift. He was too great a critic perhaps. Nevertheless the gift was there, but perhaps not enough revered, not allowed to be exercised in its native lawlessness. Mr. Binyon too is law-abiding, does not, unless he is sure of the thought, let himself go; but the lyric note is there. The graceful little introduction has it. It is sounded, lightly, from the "Harebell and Pansy" and surely the doves who

"... swaying each a sheeny throat  
Crooned their comfortable note"

have cooed it low. We hope Mr. Binyon will not allow himself to become too thoughtful to acknowledge that the lyric, even when it means nothing, may be "half angel and half bird"; for there is in him a well of poetry, of whose depth this book is perhaps the first certain unmistakable proof.

#### WESLEY.

"Wesley and his Preachers." By G. H. Pike. London: Unwin. 1903. 7s. 6d.

THE charge of a want of sympathy which is often brought against the English Church in regard to Wesley and his movement is only partially justified. Too often it is alleged in a spirit of unhealthy self-depreciation, or with the purpose of exaggerating the importance of one side of Christian activity at the cost of others. In any case it is made without a due regard to facts. John Wesley himself, from the time that he fell in with the Moravians, allowed his churchmanship, in practice though not in theory, to sit very lightly upon him. He would throw himself heartily into church work, as when he joined with Grimshaw in ministering to the thousand communicants gathered at one service

at Haworth; that he did not join equally with Dissenters was due to the fact that orthodox Dissent was almost extinct. In its present vigour it is the creation of the Evangelical movement; congregationalism, especially, is a child of the Church. The same indifference was shown not merely by men who cared little for their orders, such as Whitefield and Rowland Hill, but by benefited clergymen. Venn, when he left the scene of his triumphs at Huddersfield to be the very unsuccessful rector of Yelling, joined in a subscription for the establishment of a Congregational chapel because he was discontented with his successor; and the chief memorial of Berridge of Everton is the prevalence of Baptist places of worship in his part of Huntingdonshire.

Wesley, above all, was eager to make use of his wonderful capacity for organisation, and he had to use the material which came to his hand. His converts, if, as was often the case, they were won from nominal churchmanship, had been either godless or indifferent. They knew nothing of Church principles, and Wesley sent them forth to preach without instruction. But many of the ablest had been Dissenters from their birth. Richard Watson, for instance, who supplied Methodism with its body of systematic theology, had been brought up on the Westminster Catechism. His father was a Dissenter before he joined the Wesleys, and there is no evidence that he brought his son into any contact with the Church, though the lad grew up in Wesley's favourite county of Lincoln and his training must have conformed to a type of which Wesley approved. The same spirit is manifest in the men of the older generation, Wesley's contemporaries and fellow-workers. They respected his Churchmanship, for they owed everything to him. Their influence for good, their cohesion as a society depended upon their connexion with him. But they were waiting for the time when they should be free, and within a year or two of his death they were in form what they had always been at heart, a Dissenting body. There was, of course, a counteracting influence, which kept many faithful Methodists for at least two generations after the founder's death loyal to the Church without any breach of their Methodism, and which still maintains in all true Wesleyans an affection, or at least a respect, for the Church. But the dominant influence, and one which Wesley allowed to gain in strength under his own eyes, sanctioning it indeed by unmistakable action in the case of Coke and the American Methodists, was that which made for separation. Nor would the step seem to men of that day as decisive as it does to us. Strange as the secession of a clergyman of standing to any form of Protestant Dissent would appear to-day, a long succession of able men, from Theophilus Lindsey down to Bulteel and Baptist Noel, ventured upon it.

In this light the lives of the early Methodists become intelligible, and the society follows a natural line of development. Wesley had the gift not only of finding the right men for the office of preachers but also of evoking their latent talents; it is astonishing how many of his followers, men who began without education, mastered Greek and even Hebrew, and how eloquence and even poetry were inspired by his teaching. He had the gift of discipline, and could secure obedience and the willing endurance of hardships from his preachers. But he did not attempt to add to these high qualities of militant evangelism a definite and personal attachment to the church of which he was himself a loyal member, nor was the atmosphere of red-hot revivalism in which he and they moved one in which a reasoned system of Christian thought could well be inculcated. Wesleyans, in fact, are at their weakest in this respect; their one theological victory was over a somewhat hysterical and degenerate form of Calvinism, and their minds to-day are not quite free from the influence of that ancient controversy. But no praise can be too high for the zeal, and often the practical wisdom, with which the Gospel was preached by the first followers of Wesley; nor do their rural successors who are old men to-day deserve to be passed by without notice. Grave and simple men, often labourers by calling, they would put their bread and cheese in their pocket and trudge through all weathers from one little chapel to another to deliver their message. The old fire was gone, though the earnestness remained; there was often a natural



shrewdness but rarely a gift of expression. And so it has become the custom to smile at them, and successors of the same type are not forthcoming. It is noteworthy how many of the best of dialect stories in every county tell of the humour, more often unconscious than conscious, of the local preacher. Yet we may doubt whether religion or the cause of Methodism will gain when their place is taken by the pert young shopmen of the neighbouring town, with quite as much to say about politics and teetotalism as about the old topics of the chapel pulpit.

The writer of the present volume has chosen an admirable subject, and has shown himself utterly unfit to deal with it. He has neither knowledge nor sympathy nor power of thought, and his narrative, if such it can be called, is mere tame and unintelligent gossip. He moves in a circle where "genteel" is used as an epithet of serious praise, and he is ignorant of the ways and thoughts of those who are above and below his own social level. For the credit of the Wesleyans it must be said that there are no signs of his being a member of the society. He writes as an outsider, with none of the patriotism of the Methodist and without any interest in connecting the past of Methodism with its present. Rather should we class him among those indeterminate and vaguely benevolent people for whom the year culminates in the annual meeting of an unsectarian society at Exeter Hall, with an undenominational lord in the chair. If persons of his order of intelligence are numerous in the pews of suburban chapels, the chronic irritation from which their ministers suffer is very pardonable.

#### THE SOLDIER'S GUIDE TO BLUNDERLAND.

[WITHOUT ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.]

"Manual of Field Sketching and Reconnaissance." London: Harrison. 1903. 1s. 6d.

"Military Sketching and Reconnaissance." By Lieutenant-Colonel Mockler-Ferryman. London: Stanford. 1903. 5s.

SINCE the report on military education was issued we have been waiting to see what would be done to mend matters. Hitherto we confess that we have seen few signs of advance, whilst the few changes which have been made do not strike us as tending towards serious improvement. It will be remembered that the various text-books were rightly condemned by the commission, and amongst them was the one on military topography—a work which was the outcome of an attempt to combine the elementary instruction of Sandhurst and Militia candidates with the more advanced work demanded of Woolwich cadets, and the yet higher branches of military surveying by trained staff officers and exploration work in unmapped countries. Needless to say such a work—the joint product of several authors—rejoices in a variegated style to suit a mixed quality; and like most compositions it failed to satisfy any party, and in addition became hopelessly bulky and diffuse. So the War Office very properly decided to produce a smaller and less ambitious volume. Dr. Warre who, throughout the protracted examination of the Commission's witnesses, took an eminently practical view of the subject, urged that the true method of producing really useful text-books was to appoint a committee of experienced officers and an educational expert to edit these books and turn them out in proper style and educational form. Had this been done, the army would have benefited, and would have been spared the exhibition afforded by the work in hand. But the War Office, ignoring Dr. Warre's matured advice, proceeded to entrust the entire compilation of the work to an officer who, whatever his other qualifications, assuredly lacks the art of lucidly or methodically imparting instruction in a written form. There is an absence of coherence in his work; and no attempt is made gradually to introduce the student to the subject of maps or mapping. The successive steps in map construction are not clearly placed before him; nor is there any attempt to show him their practical utility. It requires some knowledge of the subject to appreciate the wild confusion and lack of organised system of the book: but most people,

whether experts or not, will sympathise with the student who is abruptly introduced to the intricacies of "hill sketching" without having first been taught how to represent roads, towns and woods &c. But to parade all the blunders and solecisms of a volume on such an admittedly technical subject would mean the setting out of a tiresome mass of figures. No definite system of instruction is followed; and despite a superfluity of technical terms, others are suddenly introduced without warning. Here is an example—"The prismatic compass is to be used in preference to the plane table in forest countries, &c. or where no plane table is available. Under all other circumstances use a plane table". Dr. Warre's educational expert could at least have saved us from this. Some of the best work in recent years has been done with the common magnetic compass. Yet in this "up-to-date" work, the officer is invariably assumed to carry a prismatic compass. So again with range-finders. Voluminous statistics, accompanied by hideous illustrations, are introduced of the discredited mekometer. Yet surely all the teaching of modern war has been that men on reconnaissance—occasionally spelt in this work with one s—cannot be overburdened with instruments and elaborate paraphernalia. The best parts of the book are the chapters on reconnaissance, map-reading, sketching on horseback and by time, marching by compass at night and the use of luminous maps. But these have been reproduced practically verbatim from the condemned official text-book. Reference is made to appendices and to a "text-book of topography". But as none of the former have been given; and the latter has been out of print for two years, it is hard to seek information from the sources specified!

The Education Report laid down that "one of the first duties which would fall upon the Inspector-General of Military Education would be the revision of the existing military text-books, which have been unequivocally condemned. Text-books scientifically arranged, continually revised, and always obtainable, are absolutely necessary for the education of officers". Admirable sentiments no doubt. But how have they been carried out? No topographic text-book has been obtainable since September 1902. For though the present one was in type many months ago, it was simply impossible in its first form, bad as it is now. One of the first duties of the new Education Department should have been to make it presentable. We regret that we cannot congratulate Sir Henry Hildyard and his department on the result, and we would strongly urge that the sooner it is withdrawn, the better for the credit of the army and the department. The appearance of this extraordinary book, which we are given to understand is the forerunner of similar works on other military subjects, tends to confirm our views long since expressed that our military rulers neither realise the importance nor comprehend the methods of sound education.

Colonel Mockler-Ferryman's "Military Sketching and Reconnaissance" in arrangement certainly compares favourably with the official text-book; and were it what it appears to be—an original work by a high authority—it would be deserving of considerable praise. This, however, it is not. We have before us the condemned text-book, Hutchinson's book on topography, and the various publications on the subject by Colonel Willoughby Verner—universally admitted a pioneer of considerable originality in the realms of topography. It is not so much that specific passages have actually been copied from these works, but reiterated borrowing of thought and conception of subject is evident—a proceeding which would have been entirely justifiable had the compiler made some acknowledgment to the sources from whence he drew his information. For instance Colonel Verner is the inventor of the night-marching compass, now largely in use throughout the army. He also perfected the cavalry sketching case—originally invented by Colonel Richards, the author of the first topography text-book—and in his "Rapid Field Sketching and Reconnaissance" and "Military Topography" he has devoted much space to a detailed explanation of the use of these contrivances. Conse-

quently we are surprised that Colonel Ferryman should also have produced an elaborate suggestion of these on the same lines, with no acknowledgment to the originators beyond a minor reference to one of them in an insignificant footnote. Again in Colonel Verner's "Rapid Field Sketching" we find a chapter devoted to sketching without the aid of maps, containing some original ideas as to how existing maps on a small scale may be utilised as a foundation for military sketches on a larger one. This, we may incidentally remark, was quite a new departure, the use of existing maps previously having been much discouraged. Yet we find the gist of this chapter incorporated into Colonel Ferryman's book with again no sort of acknowledgment to the originator of the idea, and other instances of a like kind might be adduced. Nor are such proceedings confined merely to the text. On p. 49 (fig. 10) we find an illustration of the points of the compass. Now until Colonel Verner's "Map-reading and Field-sketching" was issued, the illustration was nowhere to be found in any topographic work, pertaining as it does more to naval than military study. Yet this is produced, with no acknowledgment, in substantially the same form. Indeed generally speaking the work contains little which is original, or which advances us much in the topographic art. Colonel Ferryman has recently been the topographical professor at Sandhurst, and consequently his work is of more importance than it would otherwise be—all the more reason then why he should have been especially particular in denoting the sources whence he derived his inspiration.

#### WEST AFRICAN POSSIBILITIES.

"The Advance of Our West African Empire." By C. Braithwaite Wallis. London: Unwin. 1903. 21s.

NOT the least valuable of the several volumes published recently on British West Africa is this record by Captain Braithwaite Wallis of the little known Sierra Leone Protectorate Expedition of 1898-1899 and of the opportunities for commercial development which West Africa presents. The advance referred to by Captain Wallis is both actual and potential. Sierra Leone is of importance not only as one of the oldest of British Colonies but because it should play a very material part in the development of a self-contained Empire. The history of Sierra Leone from the time when it was the headquarters of the Portuguese slave trade, down to the imposition of the hut tax, to which the war was due, is full of dramatic incident. In this home of superstition, secret societies, and horrors, the efforts of the British to establish a state of civilisation, of law and of order were naturally strongly resented. The rising of the Mendis resulted in sharp fighting and a campaign which tested the resources of the Protectorate Government; both the hut tax and the war are seen to-day in a very different light from that in which they were seen at the time. It had been carefully ascertained that the tax would not bear hardly on the native, but he had no means of knowing England's ability to enforce it and Captain Wallis' opinion is that he would not in any circumstances have paid it until he had tried the experiment of resisting it by force of arms. Captain Wallis pays a generous tribute to Sir Frederic Cardew who was at immense pains to understand the needs and the ideas of the natives. In his opinion we appear now to recognise that the only way successfully to govern our West African protectorates is through the people themselves. "The African is by far the most valuable asset Africa possesses, and through him and by him only can the best results be obtained." His chiefs must be the executive authority under British control; his tribal customs must not be interfered with except when they run counter to civilised practice; and his religion must be respected, especially when it is Mohammedan. Captain Wallis has entire faith in the younger generation of African natives if sympathetically treated. They will aid materially in the realisation of the prosperity which he is assured lies ahead in West Africa.

The future of West Africa to which Captain Wallis devotes much careful attention depends upon the open-

ing up of the country and the utilisation of lands and of produce now neglected. Among the things West Africa supplies are palm-nuts, the trade in which if properly worked means immense wealth; a rice which is possibly the most nutritious in the world though not as pleasing in appearance as the whiter sort grown in India; and rubber which needs only systematic cultivation and treatment to provide a vast and thriving industry. Coffee-growing in West Africa has for some unknown reason been allowed to die down almost to the point of extinction. Yet West Africa is as suited to the operations of the planter as Ceylon. With all these possibilities, there is another and a still greater to be found in cotton. When Captain Wallis was writing this bulky book only a very few realised that the needs of Lancashire might be supplied by West Africa. Captain Wallis was one of the few. His close study of the country and of the experiments being made by far-sighted men like Sir Alfred Jones and certain Germans in Togoland convinced him that cotton-growing would be both a commercial and a political boon to West Africa and the Empire. He can see no reason, nor can we, why Great Britain should not render herself in due time independent of American cotton supplies. The cotton-grower in West Africa would not experience the difficulty which confronts the mine-owner in South Africa. Here is abundance of black labour, and Captain Wallis has always found the "boy", when employed through the instrumentality of the chiefs and reasonably well treated, a willing and cheerful worker. As it is, the natives produce "a very excellent native-woven cloth. Despite primitive appliances, the manufacture is really first-rate, the cotton-woven cloths of the Sierra Leone Hinterland—and especially those which come from the hand-looms of Mendiland—being, if somewhat coarse in texture, practically indestructible in the matter of durability and wear, as well as exceedingly tasteful in colour and design". West Africa only needs due encouragement to become a first-rate market and a first-rate source of many necessary supplies to the British Empire.

#### NOVELS.

"Le Pays Natal." By Henry Bordeaux. (New edition.) Paris: Fontemoing. 1903. 3 fr. 50.

Maugre a tendency to verbosity and exuberant description, M. Bordeaux sustains a reader's interest. He provides a living picture of the modern French demagogue, vain, heartless, self-seeking to an almost incredible degree, and he evidently possesses considerable insight into the reserved character of the people of Savoy. His description of an election is especially vivid. Jacques Alvard, the villain of the piece, has just ousted Frossard, the sitting member. He calls out to the mob "Je salue la liberté et la démocratie". "Mais son appel vibrant n'émut personne. Alors, il clama à pleins poumons :—Conspuez Frossard ! Et ce cri déclencha un tumulte effroyable d'enthousiasme. Jacques riait. Il ne remarquait dans cette scène que son pouvoir sur les hommes. Comme les conquérants qui agrandissent leurs conquêtes par l'imagination, il faisait, du présent victorieux, le piédestal d'un avenir de gloire. Des flammes de Bengale, allumées aux fenêtres, illuminaient de leurs rouges son visage. Le succès fortifiait sa beauté énergique. Rien ne lui paraissait impossible à cette heure; il se sentait de taille à remuer le monde". Meanwhile "le vaincu fuyait, abandonné de tous. Il quittait la préfecture par une porte de derrière. Lamentable, effondré, craignant les injures, il regagnait son gîte. Sans mandat, il n'était plus rien désormais. Il n'osait même plus garder sur la tête le chapeau élevé qui le désignait à l'attention, ce haut de forme qu'il n'avait pas quitté de toute la législature, et qui symbolisait à ses yeux provinciaux et l'importance des fonctions législatives et le luxe de Paris". What a contrast with the amenities which follow a contested election at home!

"Verona's Father." By David Christie Murray. London: Chatto and Windus. 1903. 6s.

Of Sally, who lived in our alley, it is recorded that her parents were unworthy, and if we turn to prose we

(Continued on page 740.)



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recall that "the Fotheringay" had an appalling father in the shape of Captain Costigan. Mr. Murray's Verona is similarly burdened, but her sire, unlike Captain Costigan, was a man delightful to meet. The study of a well-bred roué in this book is subtle and interesting. Colonel Benham had a real affection for his charming daughters, but the feeling was not strong enough to restrain him in the face of any pleasant temptation, and he slid downhill with gathering speed. He was a swindler, liar, and humbug, who had as a youngster distinguished himself in the field and retained to his undeservedly comfortable end an odd remnant of breeding and even courage. The other characters are not important, but the book is well constructed and on several grounds more readable than most current fiction. In respect of the shocking old Colonel, indeed, it is very good workmanship.

"A Passage Perilous." By Rosa Nouchette Carey. London: Macmillan. 1903. 6s.

"It was evident that Christian amused him, she was distinctly original." There is something a little pathetic in the belief of writers of this class, that they have created a brilliant and entertaining character, because she is a little less absurdly proper and timorously decorous than the other wooden puppets of the story. The tame prosaic life of ordinary beings, with middle-class surroundings, conventional behaviour, and unexciting emotions, can afford the richest material for the satirist, humorist and analyst. But that same manner of existence observed from within, complacently, and without perception of its futility in some respects, and its possibilities in others, fills one with the sense of the most utter dreariness, and a kind of dislike for humanity. But this is the kind of literature which girls like or which they are supposed to like, judging from the constant supply; it is quite inoffensive in matter and manner, and in its tame way workmanlike and effective.

"The Situations of Lady Patricia." By W. R. H. Trowbridge. London: Unwin. 1903. 6s.

After a needy youth spent in aimless flittings from one second-rate continental boarding-house to another, it is perhaps not surprising that Lady Patricia grew up hard, callous and cynical. On her mother's death she found herself practically penniless, and the "situations" are those by which she made shift to earn her livelihood. This book, which is liberally sprinkled with French phrases of the unhackneyed type of "billets-doux" and "comme il faut", seemingly aspires to hold the mirror to the vagaries of certain fast sections of present-day society. How far the presentment is faithful is therefore an esoteric question hardly to be answered outside the charmed—but not charming—circle. But the impartial reader of this chronicle of follies and vices will assuredly admit that its atmosphere is one of grey dulness and monotony. The secondary title of the volume is "A Satire for Idle People". Satire, we often hear it said, is a lost art. Let not anyone desirous of combating that statement expect support from "The Situations of Lady Patricia".

"Lady Judas." By Frank Barrett. Chatto and Windus. 6s.

Lady Judas is "a lovely Pre-raphael monstrosity" with "greed and lust, envy, hatred and all uncharitableness in her thin lips and nostrils". She is all white and black, with scarlet lips, undulating, fascinating, and dangerous as a snake; unscrupulous to the extent of wholesale murder, in fact almost impossibly wicked. To the lovers of the luridly sensational, we can imagine that this book appeals most strongly.

#### THE DECEMBER REVIEWS.

Less space is occupied by the fiscal question in the reviews this month than since Mr. Chamberlain opened his campaign, but there are two articles of first-rate importance—that by the assistant editor of the "National Review," which we shall deal with fully next week, and Mr. W. H. Mallock's in the "Fortnightly" on "The Myth of the Big and Little Loaf". Mr. Mallock renders great service to the cause of tariff reform by an examination of the facts bearing on the coincidence of dear bread and high tariffs. He shows that the Little Loaf of which free fooders make so much existed from 1795 to about 1823 and was due to Napoleon's action in imposing upon Great

Britain against her will "a Corn Law far more stringent than any of its own making by cutting us off completely from all foreign supplies". For twenty-three years before the repeal of the Corn Laws bread was much cheaper than for ten years after. A careful statement of the history of the price of bread for the whole century makes it clear that the legislation of 1846 did not secure what is called the Big Loaf. On the contrary during the Crimean War eight or nine years after repeal the price of bread went up seriously and it was not until 1884 that wheat began to fall in price, until bread became cheap beyond the dreams of the most visionary of Cobdenites. To save agriculture and all that it means to Great Britain Mr. Mallock would be prepared to impose a duty not of 2s. but of 16s. with a preference of some 2s. in favour of the Colonies. The cost he reckons would be under 6d. per head per month, and the gain would be more employment and the growth of corn sufficient to feed 12,000,000 more of our population than we feed now. Mr. Shaw Lefevre in the same review attacks Mr. Balfour's policy of retaliation, which he ridicules on the ground that if we exempt Russian and American raw materials there is very little left to tax. One might imagine from Mr. Shaw Lefevre's survey that Great Britain had no such thing as a serious competitor in commerce. To him the fiscal campaign is merely "an appeal to the selfish interests of a few".

In the "Independent Review" Mr. J. M. Denny in a highly technical article convinces himself at any rate that protection would be bad for our shipbuilding industry. He is afraid new remedies may bring new diseases. In the "Contemporary" Mr. E. Farrer, a Canadian, bids us think twice before embarking on reactionary changes in our relations with the colonies. "The New Imperialists", he says, have already done harm, and their theory "rests on the flimsiest sort of underpinning". Canadians are not going to permit them to degrade the Dominion or to take away any portion of their self-government. They do not want to join the United States but there is much more to be gained across the border than across the Atlantic. Mr. Farrer is a worthy disciple of Mr. Goldwin Smith, and represents the minority in Canada whose views delight the Little Englander at home. A colonist of a different stamp, though not one whit less Radical in his Imperial views, is Mr. W. P. Reeves, who writes on "Colonial Ideals" from the domestic standpoint in the "Independent" and on colonial sentiments towards the Mother Country in the "Monthly". Mr. Reeves proposes the creation of "a department of the Empire"—an Imperial advisory council which would inquire into such questions as the fiscal relations of Great Britain and the colonies.

In the "Nineteenth Century" Sir Wemyss Reid expresses his conviction that Mr. Chamberlain is not breaking down "the strong force of hostile opinion" and then admits that Mr. Chamberlain has been "successful in winning over to his cause the party press". Mr. Edward Dicey also in the "Nineteenth" after a survey of the advance of Russia, which he is assured has not yet reached its limits, contends that even if all the objections to Mr. Chamberlain's proposals were sound the possibility they open up "of consolidating the British Empire ought to overrule all minor considerations in the minds of those who believe in England's Imperial mission". The Editor's reference to the controversy in the "Monthly" takes the form of a clever skit describing a second voyage to Laputa, where among other things he listens to a discourse on the Religious Aspect of Arithmetic by the Founder and General of the Imperial Salvation Army.

The most notable feature in "Blackwood's", as it is the most detached of the articles in the December reviews, is a proposal for the irrigation of Mesopotamia. Once the garden of the East, as the result of its ancient canals, weirs and dams, the Delta of the Tigris might be rescued from aridity by the adoption of Sir William Willcocks' scheme for restoring the Great Nahrwan Canal. "Sir William Willcocks divides the region which he proposes to restore into two sections: one, Upper Chaldea, representing an area of 1,280,000 acres 'of first-class land waiting only for water to yield at once a handsome return'; the other, Lower Chaldea, 1,500,000 acres, whose lands, although valuable, he considers were never as fertile as those of Upper Chaldea, and which have besides become impregnated with salt. This last section, he concludes, can wait." The grand total of the cost is estimated at £8,000,000; the value of the land irrigated would amount to £38,000,000 and the rental would realise nearly £4,000,000. If half were spent in maintenance, there would be a return of 25 per cent. on the capital outlay. The idea cannot fail to appeal to the country whose engineers have done so much by irrigation to restore the prosperity of Egypt, and, says the writer, "let those who know Egypt say whether they think my figures over-sanguine".

The tributes to Theodor Mommsen are many. In the "Fortnightly" Mr. J. S. Mann introduces a general survey of Anglo-German relations with a reference to "the greatest of the many German scholars and historians who have contributed to enrich the culture of the present generation". Mommsen's "services to learning were vast, manifold and unique", and if some of his standards differed from "the judgments of the British conscience", "if he glorified Cæsar in terms coloured



by the blood and iron of the Modern German Empire, we are yet content to reflect that every educated Englishman, especially if he be an Oxford man, owes more to his work, directly or indirectly, than to that of any scholar of his generation. "A worthy descendant of the great scholars and teachers who helped to place Germany in the van of European thought", says the President of Trinity in a short personal article in the "Independent". An "impressionist" sketch, coloured by American sentiments, is given by Mr. Sidney Whitman in the "Contemporary". "Blackwood" sums Mommsen up as hating Cicero and loving Cæsar for the same reason that he loved or hated his contemporaries. "It was with a German eye that he looked upon the history of Rome"; "lucidly as he analysed the Roman Constitution, vividly as he described its battles and battlefields, it was in portraiture that he displayed his most splendid talent". The note of qualification comes from a German. Dr. Emil Reich who writes in the "Monthly" does not appear to have found Mommsen very illuminative or satisfying. "Mommsen's book would have been an inestimable manual for the officials of the first century of the Roman Empire but it does not help us very much in the comprehension of the Roman Constitution as a product of living history." Yet he admits that "Mommsen laid all students of Roman history under an obligation hard to overrate".

For This Week's Books see page 742.

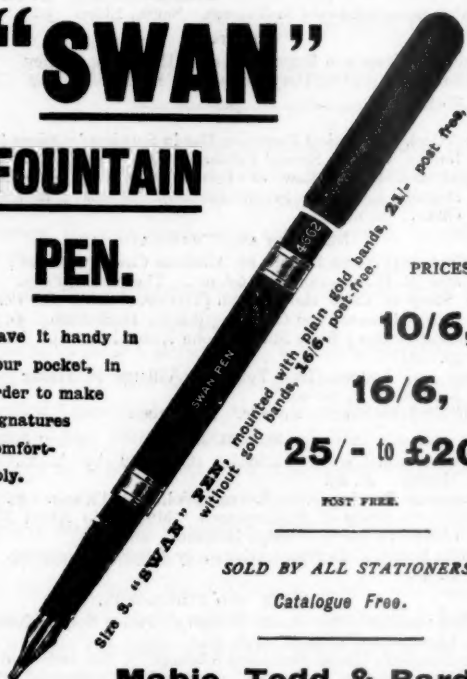
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Shaler). Boston, U.S.A.: Houghton, Mifflin. \$50.00 net.

Other Poems (Mrs. Louis H. Le Bailly). Lane. 3s. 6d. net.

Songs of Summer and Other Poems (C. Whitworth Wynne). Grant  
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Œuvres Complètes d'Alfred de Vigny: Poésies (Édition définitive).  
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Castalian Days (Lloyd Mifflin). Frowde. 5s.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**

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Newnes. 6s. net.

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Commerce and the Empire (Edward Pulsford). Cassell.

"Daily Mail" Year Book (1903), 1s. 6d.

Der grosse Kampf zwischen Kaisertum und Papsttum zur Zeit des  
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für Reformationsgeschichte (Herausgegeben von Walter  
Friedensburg). Berlin: Schwetschke. 2m. 80 each.

Exiles of Eternity (Rev. John S. Carroll). Hodder and Stoughton,  
7s. 6d. net.

Four French Lectures (J. H. Hallard). Oxford: Blackwell. 1s.  
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Manual of Elocution (John Forsyth). Dent. 2s.

Political Caricatures, 1903 (F. Carruthers Gould). Arnold. 6s.

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To be presented at the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS, to be held on the 17th December, 1903.

The Directors have much pleasure in submitting the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account made up to the 30th June, 1903, showing a profit of £41,392, which together with the balance carried forward from last year makes a total credit balance of £103,157. The directors do not recommend for the present any distribution as dividend from this sum, as they are of opinion that owing to the improving outlook in South Africa the financial resources of the Company should be reserved for the increasing business which is now with confidence expected.

Following the course of the markets there has been a corresponding depreciation in the quotations of several of the Company's assets, but, with one or two exceptions, their intrinsic value has been steadily increasing throughout the year.

#### LAND IN THE TRANSVAAL.

The Transvaal land interest of the Company fully maintains the enhanced value established on the termination of the war. The Oceana Minerals Company has been engaged during the past year in investigating the mineral value of its farms and has again examined the copper deposits, which since the inception of the original Oceana Company in 1888, were known to exist at Uitenpas and Arçonville, in the north of the Transvaal. These investigations are likely to increase materially the value of several of the farms. The protracted drought and want of labour and transport have interfered much with the development of agriculture. Experienced agriculturists, however, are now visiting the country with a view to acquiring farms and commencing operations.

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#### WELGEDACHT EXPLORATION COMPANY.

Boring operations have been carried out on the farm, and the Main reef series was proved in three bore-holes at the depths of 2,723, 2,385, and 3,090 feet respectively. As these bore-holes show that some "faulting" of the Reef had apparently taken place, it was decided to put down two more, before finally locating the site of the shaft; in one of these, No. 4 bore-hole, the main reef has been struck at a depth of 2,842 feet. The purchase of the farm was completed in February last, and it is now the freehold property of the Company, which had upwards of £124,000 available in cash assets on June 30th, 1903, with an issued capital of 95,000 shares of £1 each. The new Rand Exploration Company, in which the Welgedacht Company possesses a three-quarter interest, has started drilling operations on the Farms Olifantsfontein, Goedgedacht, and Vlakplaats. A large formation of coal has been struck on the last mentioned, and a shaft is now being sunk.

#### VAN RYN.

Crushing operations were again started in June, on the completion of the works, and the western mill of 80 stamps is now running. 24,440 tons were milled and 16,200 treated by cyanide during the quarter ending September last, producing 10,752 ozs. of fine gold and a profit for the quarter of £12,334. During October 10,040 tons were milled and 6,400 treated by cyanide, yielding in all 4,388 ozs. and a profit for the month of £5,043. Now that there is a prospect of an additional supply of labour for the mines steps are being taken to put the Estate Mill of 80 stamps in working order. It is expected that in three or four months the whole 160 stamps will be at work, when monthly profits at least double that earned in October ought to be realised.

#### DOUGLAS COLLIERY.

As soon as sufficient labour could be secured work was resumed. There is a good demand for the coal, which is of better quality than that of the bulk of the collieries near Boksburg. The sales in September last had risen to 9,700 tons from about 3,000 tons in November, 1902, and the estimated monthly profit to £1,100 from £400.

#### PRETORIA-PIETERSBURG RAILWAY.

The Government having determined upon the expropriation of the line, has submitted to the shareholders an offer of payment in anticipation of the date when the notice to expropriate would mature. The payment proposed is calculated to give an immediate distribution of £9 per share on the £10 shares of the Company. A sum of about £150,000 is withheld by the Government, pending the decision of the Law Courts, as to its liability for an arbitration award given under the late Transvaal Government in favour of the contractors against the

railway company. The shareholders accepted the terms offered them, at meetings held on the 13th and 30th November last, and appointed liquidators for the voluntary winding-up of the Company. The debentures are to be redeemed by Government on the 9th instant at par, with interest up to date of payment. The nominal value of the Oceana Company's holding amounts to £261,680.

#### WEST AFRICA.

Good progress has been made during the year by the Companies in which we are interested. The Taquah and Abosso Company is actively engaged in opening up the Taquah property. The permanent main shaft has now been sunk to a depth of 419 feet, and work is being pushed ahead. The native township has proved very successful, and its area has had to be extended. The township for the white population is also gradually increasing.

The Abosso Company has devoted its energies to the erection of the permanent mining plant, and also to the opening up of the first three levels in its main shaft. A considerable amount of driving, totalling upwards of 3,600 feet, has been done, and the mine is developing in a satisfactory manner. The sinking of the main shaft, which had reached a depth of 440 feet, has recently been resumed with the permanent head gear, and it is anticipated that the erection of the stamps will be commenced before long.

On the Ankobra River, the Ankobra (Taquah and Abosso) Development Syndicate has commenced dredging operations, and the prospects are of an encouraging nature, as in the first experimental run 47 ozs. of gold were recovered in 72 hours' working. The concession extends to about 26 miles of the river, with 500 yards on each bank. It is estimated by Mr. Montagu T. Barney, M.A.M.I.M.E., who examined and reported upon it, that about 18 miles are well suited for dredging operations, his tests showing as high as 2 dwts. per cubic yard. No work has yet been done on the other concessions pending the issue of certificates of validity by the Concessions Court.

#### KATANGA COMPANY.

The development of the country is proceeding satisfactorily; roads have been opened up, giving access for the transport of goods to the southern districts, and stations established throughout the territory. Four important groups of copper deposits are being explored, two of which are estimated to contain a minimum of 1,500,000 tons, while the assays show an average of over 13 per cent. of copper.

#### MOZAMBIQUE COMPANY.

Though affected, as other territories, by the depression prevailing in South Africa, the Mozambique Company has nevertheless made steady progress during the course of the year, the African revenue having risen to over £153,000 (£23,000 in excess of the estimates) thus nearly balancing the African expenditure of £154,000. Every branch of the Company's business is being developed; the town and port of Beira are being materially and constantly improved, and special attention is also being paid to the mining and agricultural resources of the country.

The reduction of the railway rates from Beira to the interior by the Beira Mashonaland Railway ought now soon to be arranged, as by the end of next year the Cape mileage rates come into force. More moderate rates than those now charged would greatly augment the traffic and the corresponding activity of the Port. The Mozambique Company has just undertaken the survey for a new line from Beira to a point on the Zambesi Railway near Sena, which will open up districts hitherto difficult of access and bring a large increase of traffic to the Port of Beira.

During the course of the year the position of the Company has been further strengthened by an issue of shares taken by the New African Company.

#### EGYPT.

During the course of the year your directors decided to participate in the business of the New Egyptian Company, which was privately formed in 1899, with a subscribed working capital of £150,000. This Company, under the able direction of Mr. J. S. Beresford, M.I.C.E., is engaged on the reclamation of land from the Nile, the sole right having been granted to it by the Egyptian Government, and successful results are now being achieved by these works. The Oceana Company is also interested, through the Soudan Development and Exploration Company, in a line of steamers, which, under a Government guarantee, is in operation between Khartoum and Lado.

#### ABYSSINIA.

The Imperial Ethiopian Railway, in which your Company is interested through the International Ethiopian Railway Trust and Construction Company, has now arrived at its present terminus, Diré Daouah, 306 kilometres from Djibouti, and is in regular operation. A road has been constructed between Diré Daouah and Harrar, a distance of 45 kilometres, thus placing the rich district of which Harrar is the central market, in direct communication with the port of Djibouti. It is believed the line will shortly be extended to Addis Abeba, the capital of the country.

#### GENERAL.

The Capital Account of the Company has been increased to 1,650,000 shares by the issue in January last, under guarantee, of 150,000 shares at the price of £2 per share, and the Premium Account has thus been raised by £150,000.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, Messrs. H. Pasteur, T. F. Dalglish, and the Earl of Chesterfield retire, and offer themselves for re-election.

Messrs. Welton, Jones & Co., Auditors of the Company, retire, and offer themselves for re-election.

H. PASTEUR,  
Chairman.

13 AUSTIN FRIARS,  
9th December, 1903



## The Oceana Consolidated Company, Limited.

Continued.

## BALANCE SHEET at 30th JUNE, 1903.

| Dr.   |                    | £          | s.      | d. | £  | s. | d. |
|---|--------------------|------------|---------|----|----|----|----|
| To Capital—   | Authorised .. .. . | 2,000,000  | 0       | 0  |    |    |    |
| Issued:   |                    |            |         |    |    |    |    |
| 1,500,000 Shares of £1 each, fully paid up  | .. .. .            | 1,500,000  | 0       | 0  |    |    |    |
| 150,000 Shares of £1 each, 15s. called up   | .. .. .            | 112,500    | 0       | 0  |    |    |    |
|   |                    | 1,612,500  | 0       | 0  |    |    |    |
| Less Calls unpaid   | .. .. .            | 2,570      | 0       | 0  |    |    |    |
|   |                    | 1,609,930  | 0       | 0  |    |    |    |
| Shares Forfeited .. .. .  |                    |            | 7       | 15 | 0  |    |    |
| Calls and Premiums paid in advance  | .. .. .            |            | 11,825  | 10 | 0  |    |    |
| Premiums Account—   |                    |            |         |    |    |    |    |
| Balance forward from 30th June, 1902  | .. .. .            | 45,867     | 5       | 5  |    |    |    |
| Add Premium on 150,000 Shares allotted at £1 premium (15s. called up) .. .. .                 |                    |            |         |    |    |    |    |
|   |                    |            | 112,500 | 0  | 0  |    |    |
| Less Premiums unpaid  | .. .. .            | 2,570      | 0       | 0  |    |    |    |
|   |                    | 109,930    | 0       | 0  |    |    |    |
| Less New Issue Expenses   | .. .. .            | 155,797    | 5       | 5  |    |    |    |
|   |                    | 4,436      | 10      | 0  |    |    |    |
| Unclaimed Dividends .. .. .   |                    |            | 1,412   | 9  | 6  |    |    |
| Sundry Creditors in London and Africa   | .. .. .            |            | 7,978   | 0  | 8  |    |    |
| Bills payable .. .. .   |                    |            | 3,500   | 0  | 0  |    |    |
| Profit and Loss Account—  |                    |            |         |    |    |    |    |
| Credit Balance, 30th June, 1902   | .. .. .            | 141,452    | 8       | 5  |    |    |    |
| Less Dividend 1s. per Share declared payable December, 1902, on 1,500,000 Shares .. .. .      |                    |            | 75,000  | 0  | 0  |    |    |
| Income Tax .. .. .  |                    |            | 4,687   | 10 | 0  |    |    |
|   |                    | 79,687     | 10      | 0  |    |    |    |
| Profit for year to 30th June, 1903, as per Account herewith                                   | .. .. .            | 41,392     | 10      | 6  |    |    |    |
|   |                    | 103,157    | 10      | 11 |    |    |    |
| Contingent Liabilities—   |                    |            |         |    |    |    |    |
| Uncalled Capital on Investments .. .. .   |                    |            | 477,172 | 2  | 0  |    |    |
| Liabilities under Agreements .. .. .  |                    |            |         |    |    |    |    |
| Liability under Contract  | .. .. .            |            |         |    |    |    |    |
|   |                    | £1,889,181 | 13      | 6  |    |    |    |
| Cr.   |                    |            |         |    |    |    |    |
| By Cash in London and Africa  | .. .. .            |            | 12,303  | 0  | 1  |    |    |
| British and Foreign Government Securities, &c. (at cost) ..                                   |                    |            | 121,527 | 8  | 4  |    |    |
| Loans on Stock Exchange .. .. .   |                    |            | 47,572  | 15 | 0  |    |    |
|   |                    | 181,403    | 3       | 5  |    |    |    |
| Loans to various Companies against Securities   | .. .. .            |            | 13,916  | 10 | 0  |    |    |
| Sundry Debtors in London and Africa .. .. .   |                    |            | 40,661  | 5  | 3  |    |    |
| Investments (at cost)   |                    |            |         |    |    |    |    |
| Railway Shares and Debentures .. .. .   |                    | £338,643   | 4       | 3  |    |    |    |
| Mining Interests in Transvaal .. .. .   |                    |            | 671,320 | 16 | 10 |    |    |
| Land Interests in Transvaal, &c. .. .. .  |                    |            | 20,788  | 2  | 4  |    |    |
| West African .. .. .  |                    |            | 90,683  | 18 | 0  |    |    |
| Territorial and Development Interests in Portuguese East Africa and Congo Free State .. .. .  |                    |            | 219,222 | 5  | 0  |    |    |
| Egyptian and Soudanese Interests .. .. .  |                    |            | 17,411  | 2  | 0  |    |    |
| Sundries .. .. .  |                    |            | 155,183 | 2  | 6  |    |    |
|   |                    | 1,512,652  | 10      | 11 |    |    |    |
| Land in Transvaal (1,038,000 acres) at cost .. .. .   |                    |            | 53,304  | 4  | 11 |    |    |
| Town Sites, Buildings, and Sundry Assets in and around Beira (cost less depreciation) .. .. . |                    |            | 55,918  | 11 | 5  |    |    |
| Buildings and Sundry Assets .. .. .   |                    |            | 29,723  | 19 | 7  |    |    |
| Furniture and Fittings .. .. .  |                    |            | 1,603   | 8  | 0  |    |    |
|   |                    | £1,889,181 | 13      | 6  |    |    |    |

## Profit and Loss Account for the Year ending 30th June, 1903.

| Dr.   |  | £       | s.     | d. | £ | s. | d. |
|---|--|---------|--------|----|---|----|----|
| To Office, Salaries, Directors' Fees, and other Expenses—London, Paris and Lisbon, less Fees received from other Companies .. .. .            |  | £10,283 | 1      | 0  |   |    |    |
| Transvaal and East African Expenses, including Salaries, Rent, Travelling and other Expenses, less Fees received from other Companies .. .. . |  |         | 6,518  | 18 | 1 |    |    |
| Depreciations on Furniture, Buildings and Sundry Assets .. .. .   |  |         | 16,801 | 19 | 1 |    |    |
| Bad Debts written off .. .. .   |  |         | 1,067  | 19 | 2 |    |    |
| Balance carried to Balance Sheet .. .. .  |  |         | 41,392 | 12 | 6 |    |    |
|   |  | £59,872 | 5      | 8  |   |    |    |
| Cr.   |  |         |        |    |   |    |    |
| By Dividends and Interest received and accrued .. .. .  |  |         | 35,524 | 15 | 2 |    |    |
| Profit on Shares and Investments realised (less Loss) .. .. .   |  |         | 23,269 | 19 | 0 |    |    |
| Transfer Fees .. .. .   |  |         | 977    | 11 | 6 |    |    |
|   |  | £59,872 | 5      | 8  |   |    |    |

In accordance with the Companies Act, 1900, we certify that all our requirements as Auditors have been complied with. We have to report to the Shareholders that we have audited the above Balance Sheet and in our opinion such Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Company's affairs as shown by the Books of the Company in London, and the Accounts received from Africa. The values attached to the Investments are introduced on the responsibility of the Directors, and are subject to realisation.

WELTON, JONES &amp; CO.

4 MOORGATE STREET, LONDON, E.C.4.  
and December, 1903.

## RAND MINES, LIMITED.

## FOURTH DRAWING.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following Five per cent. Debentures were this day drawn for payment at £103 per cent. on or after the 1st January, 1904, from which day interest thereon will cease:

## Debentures of £50.

|      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 4692 | 4698 | 4711 | 4748 | 4758 | 4760 | 4777 | 4811 | 4819 | 4815 |
| 4817 | 4819 | 4830 | 4831 | 4841 | 4843 | 4856 | 4869 | 4893 | 4903 |
| 4908 | 4921 | 4924 | 4925 | 4932 | 4942 | 4969 | 4975 | 4978 | 4986 |
| 4987 | 4994 | 5008 | 5012 | 5014 | 5023 | 5025 | 5026 | 5027 | 5028 |
| 5068 | 5083 | 5090 | 5117 | 5125 | 5145 | 5160 | 5174 | 5217 | 5229 |
| 5236 | 5237 | 5259 | 5274 | 5285 | 5286 | 5301 | 5311 | 5394 | 5398 |
| 5402 | 5407 | 5411 | 5430 | 5435 | 5431 | 5457 | 5466 | 5471 | 5485 |
| 5492 | 5495 | 5524 | 5530 | 5575 | 5577 | 5590 | 5598 | 5609 | 5635 |
| 5646 | 5650 | 5689 | 5694 | 5695 | 5703 | 5715 | 5721 | 5723 | 5725 |
| 5751 | 5759 | 5761 | 5762 | 5764 | 5770 | 5798 | 5818 | 5831 | 5832 |
| 5836 | 5842 | 5854 | 5861 | 5862 | 5899 | 5902 | 5903 | 5921 | 5930 |
| 5938 | 5966 | 5973 | 5975 | 5992 | 6014 | 6035 | 6040 | 6067 | 6075 |
| 6081 | 6093 | 6104 | 6142 | 6150 | 6173 | 6175 | 6185 | 6199 | 6211 |
| 6227 | 6230 | 6237 | 6250 | 6255 |      |      |      |      |      |

## Debentures of £100.

|      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1138 | 1165 | 1172 | 1181 | 1185 | 1222 | 1228 | 1242 | 1244 |
| 1263 | 1270 | 1293 | 1310 | 1333 | 1350 | 1364 | 1374 | 1386 |
| 1388 | 1389 | 1392 | 1396 | 1414 | 1424 | 1457 | 1465 | 1507 |
| 1535 | 1541 | 1543 | 1550 | 1574 | 1588 | 1630 | 1638 | 1661 |
| 1667 | 1689 | 1691 | 1696 | 1748 | 1752 | 1757 | 1765 | 1776 |
| 1790 | 1793 | 1794 | 1795 | 1822 | 1824 | 1843 | 1847 | 1854 |
| 1863 | 1868 | 1889 | 1924 | 1947 | 1950 | 1956 | 1965 | 1983 |
| 2021 | 2026 | 2030 | 2055 | 2062 | 2063 | 2077 | 2086 | 2106 |
| 2114 | 2115 | 2116 | 2122 | 2140 | 2145 | 2158 | 2173 | 2198 |
| 2204 | 2221 | 2225 | 2226 | 2270 | 2274 | 2282 | 2305 | 2317 |
| 2351 | 2358 | 2355 | 2365 | 2366 | 2374 | 2380 | 2386 | 2408 |
| 2404 | 2411 | 2418 | 2427 | 2431 | 2439 | 2450 | 2467 | 2479 |
| 2499 | 2511 | 2531 | 2552 | 2584 | 2587 | 2595 | 2623 | 2635 |
| 2663 | 2664 | 2667 | 2673 | 2678 | 2687 | 2689 | 2691 | 2693 |
| 2696 | 2705 | 2712 | 2733 | 2743 | 2774 | 2776 | 2793 | 2804 |
| 2814 | 2845 | 2846 | 2847 | 2851 | 2852 | 2862 | 2882 | 2884 |
| 2920 | 2928 | 2936 | 2951 | 2959 | 2967 | 2969 | 2988 | 2995 |
| 3000 | 3013 | 3030 | 3060 | 3086 | 3105 | 3107 | 3142 | 3147 |
| 3184 | 3195 | 3206 | 3210 | 3212 | 3225 | 3227 | 3229 | 3234 |
| 3259 | 3261 | 3262 | 3275 | 3281 | 3290 | 3295 | 3304 | 3314 |
| 3365 | 3393 | 3414 | 3437 | 3458 | 3472 | 3491 | 3503 | 3506 |
| 3521 | 3522 | 3530 | 3535 | 3540 | 3598 | 3603 | 3616 | 3623 |
| 3644 | 3662 | 3665 | 3682 | 3683 | 3692 | 3708 | 3718 | 3732 |
| 3773 | 3779 | 3782 | 3792 | 3793 | 3823 | 3837 | 3859 | 3887 |
| 3904 | 3931 | 3943 | 3960 | 3974 | 3981 | 3990 | 3991 | 4008 |
| 4025 | 4035 | 4037 | 4041 | 4046 | 4052 | 4068 | 4074 | 4081 |
| 4126 | 4138 | 4172 | 4202 | 4206 | 4226 | 4247 | 4252 | 4283 |
| 4291 | 4336 | 4339 | 4341 | 4343 | 4345 | 4358 | 4364 | 4376 |
| 4379 | 4385 | 4396 | 4399 | 4403 | 4442 | 4466 | 4518 | 4534 |
| 4556 | 4577 | 4580 | 4581 | 4586 | 4601 | 4606 | 4625 | 4639 |
| 4635 | 4640 | 4644 | 4661 | 4662 | 4666 |      |      |      |

## Debentures of £500.

|      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 9    | 20   | 28   | 54   | 57   | 72   | 74   | 77   | 84   | 90   |
| 124  | 125  | 131  | 160  | 218  | 219  | 240  | 243  | 252  | 253  |
| 274  | 283  | 315  | 323  | 335  | 347  | 360  | 370  | 376  | 388  |
| 396  | 397  | 423  | 428  | 436  | 453  | 455  | 456  | 480  | 483  |
| 486  | 501  | 508  | 518  | 521  | 525  | 534  | 543  | 549  | 557  |
| 633  | 635  | 665  | 676  | 682  | 694  | 703  | 706  | 711  | 719  |
| 723  | 724  | 766  | 770  | 775  | 776  | 787  | 796  | 807  | 818  |
| 826  | 841  | 844  | 873  | 895  | 896  | 901  | 904  | 960  | 970  |
| 979  | 982  | 1025 | 1026 | 1067 | 1078 | 1081 | 1083 | 1108 | 1123 |
| 1124 | 1129 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |

## RECAPITULATION.

|     |                         |         |               |         |      |
|-----|-------------------------|---------|---------------|---------|------|
| 135 | Debentures of £50 each, | £6,750  | with Premium, | £6,952  | 10s. |
| 308 | " " " £100 "            | 30,600  | " "           | 31,518  |      |
| 92  | " " " £500 "            | 48,000  | " "           | 47,380  |      |
| 533 |                         | £83,350 |               | £85,850 | 10s. |

The above Debentures must be left four clear days for examination, and may be presented at the London Office any day (Saturdays excepted) after Wednesday, the 23rd December, 1903, between the hours of 11 and 2.

Listing Forms may be had on application.

London Office: 1 London Wall Buildings, E.C.

By order, A. MOIR, (London Secretary).  
Present at Drawing: ALEX. RIDGWAY (of the firm of JOHN VENN & SONS),  
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The price of issue is 105 per Cent., payable as follows:—

|     |   |   |                                |
|-----|---|---|--------------------------------|
| £10 | 0 | 0 | per £100 Stock on Application. |
| 16  | 0 | 0 | Allotment, January 4th, 1904.  |
| 20  | 0 | 0 | February 8th.                  |
| 20  | 0 | 0 | March 7th.                     |
| 20  | 0 | 0 | April 6th.                     |
| 20  | 0 | 0 | May 9th.                       |

£106 0 0

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